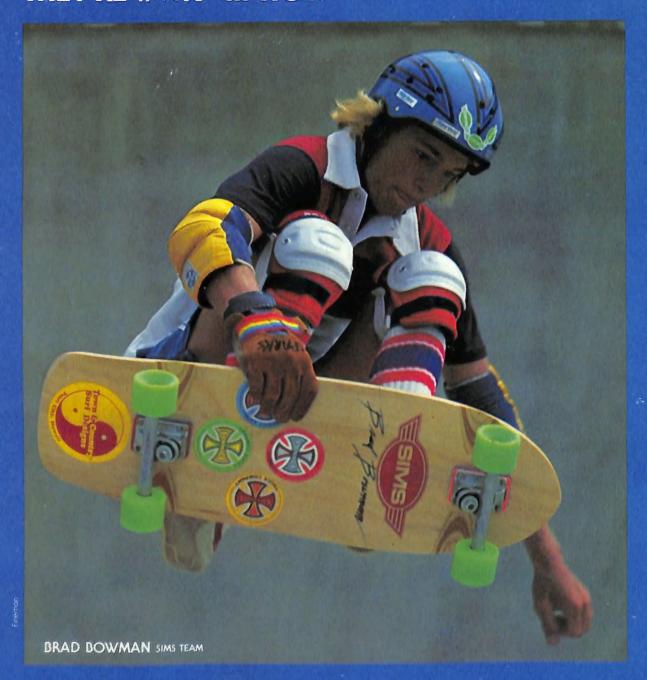


THEY'RE #★X♥!!! HOT!



88 mm

109 mm

131 mm





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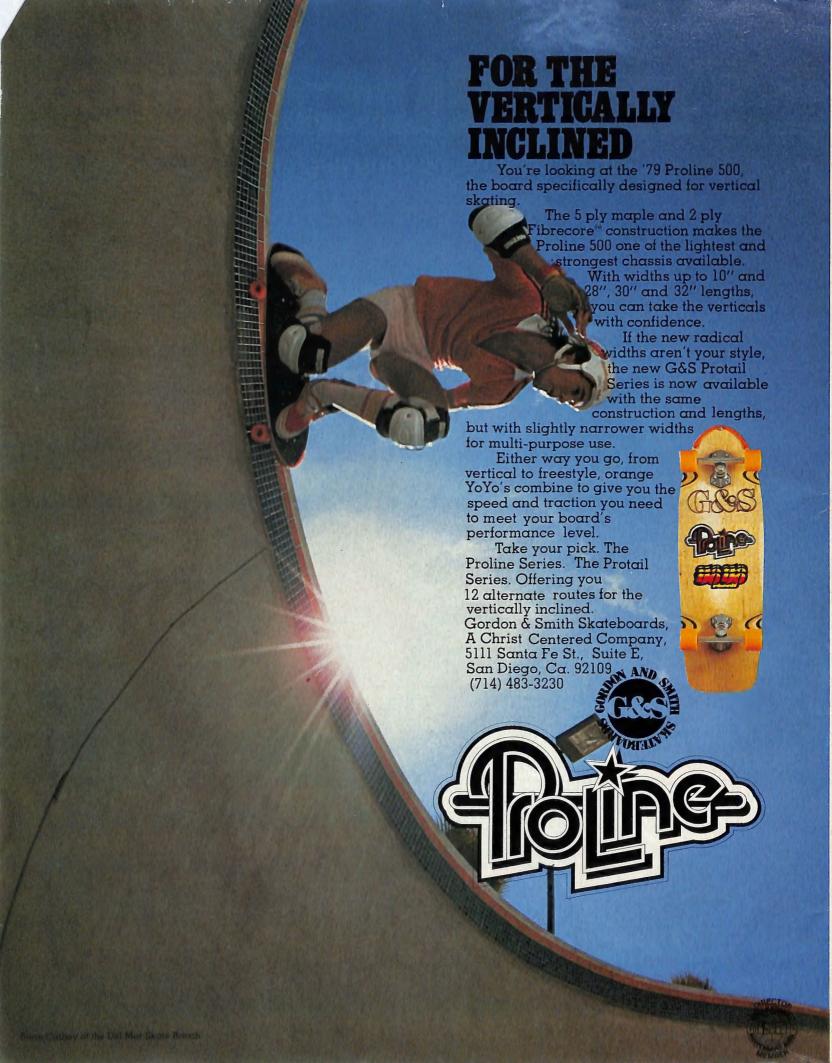
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Skale Boarder.

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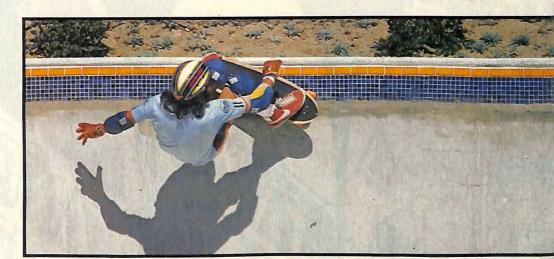
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COVER & CONTENTS: Steve Olson, overall winner of the Hester Pro Bowl Series and a hot surfer as well, has long proven the adaptability of one talent to the other. Here Steve pulls off a very surfy vertical layback in the pool at the Del Mar Skate Ranch. Definitely avant-garde! (It's the first one we've even seen attempted.) Only problem is, how does Steve top this one?!? Photos: Cassimus.















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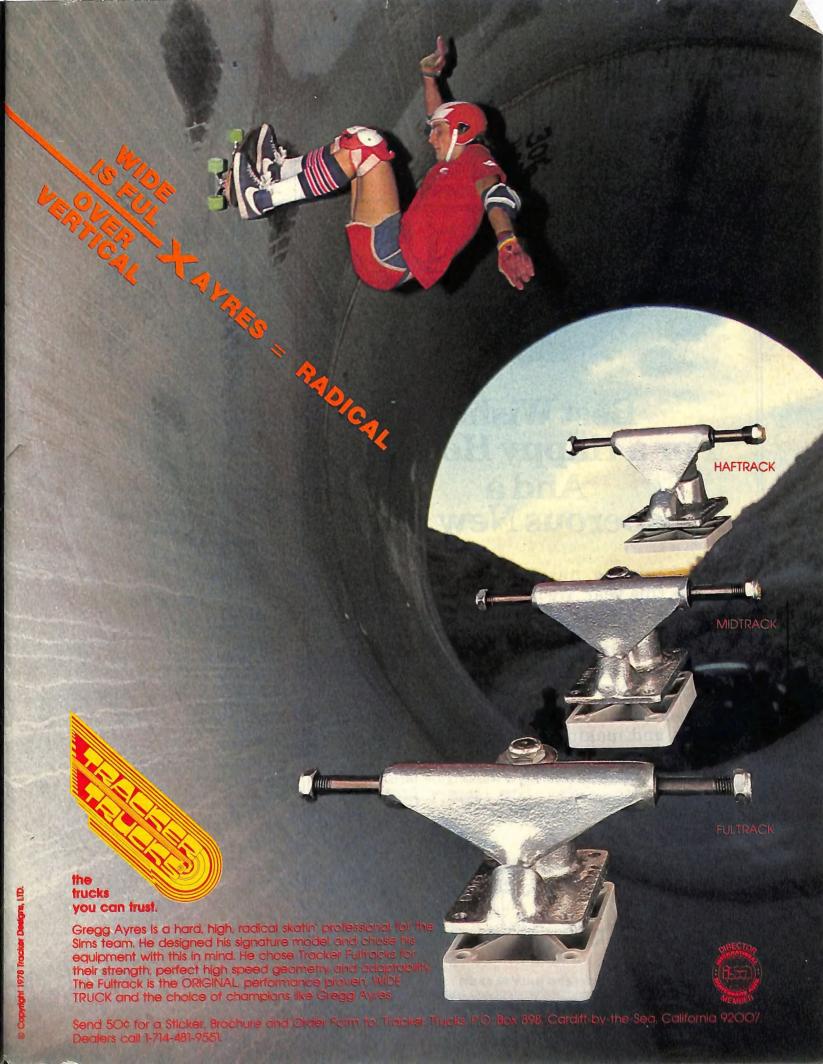
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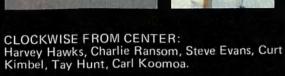
















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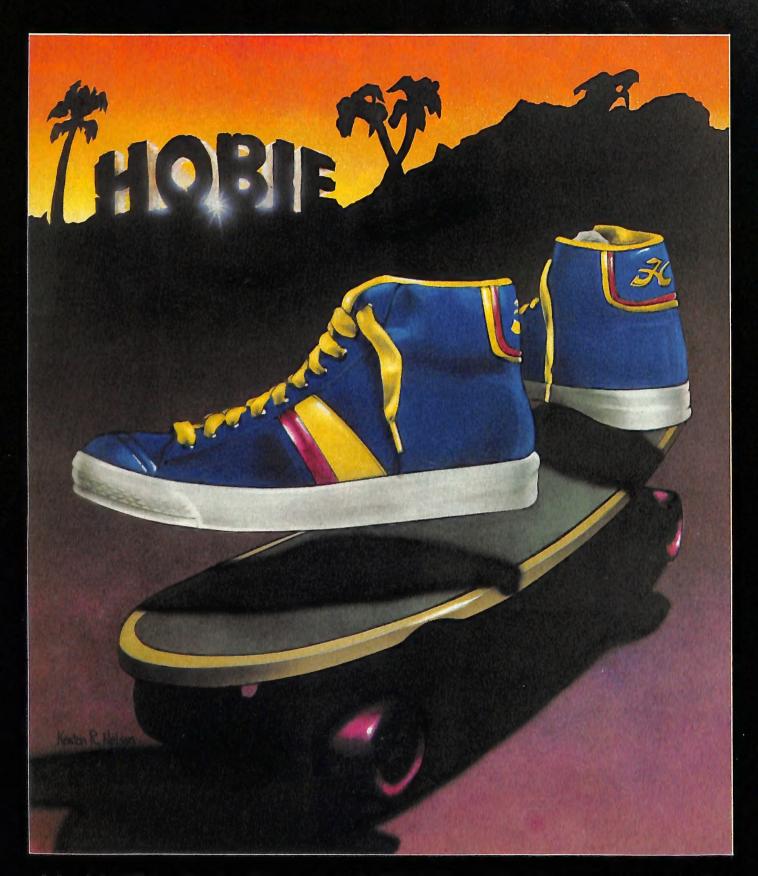
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Buffalo) (photo I

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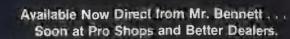
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- 4. THE DESIGN-We've made several changes to the C-Series wheels that improve performance. The 60 and 65 millimeter wheel are now two inches wide like the 70. The 70 is now a flat back design and all three have radiused back edges except the red formula. The front edge is also thicker to reduce flex and increase acceleration out of turns.



5. THE PACKAGE-We decided that a wheel system as advanced as the C-Series needed a special container for display and storage. So every set of wheels now comes in a reusable can with bold color graphics.



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SKATE POST

OUTRAGED

We need to get a lobby against the Consumer Affairs Committee for Democratic Action, who wants to ban all skateboards nationwide! They have no right to take away our form of recreation; it's our constitutional right. Jeff, Dave, Steve, Gary & Tracy Ft. Madison, IA

I hope you will print this letter because it is about the committee in Washington trying to ban skateboarding in the whole country except in skateparks. That's ok, but what if you don't have a park near where you live? Like me, the closest park is 100 miles away! What am I going to do then?

Brian Fields, Sebring, Fla.

I heard something on the news the other night that sent me and the other guys into shock. I heard that some group in Washington was trying to ban skateboards totally. We wanna know if it's true cuz if it is, we're ready to fight it. David Feagan, David Harrison,

Rattle Snake Bonham, TX

"We also feel the proposed ban, vocally put forth by Ann Brown of the Consumer Affairs Committee of the ADA, is extremist and irresponsible. Judging by a recent editorial in the L.A. Herald Examiner (Oct. 8, 1978) and the volume of letters we've already received, many other people concur. (Watch for an editorial next issue by Sally Anne Miller of the ISA). Concerned skaters and sympathetic parents should definitely write their congressmen and make their opinions known." S.M.



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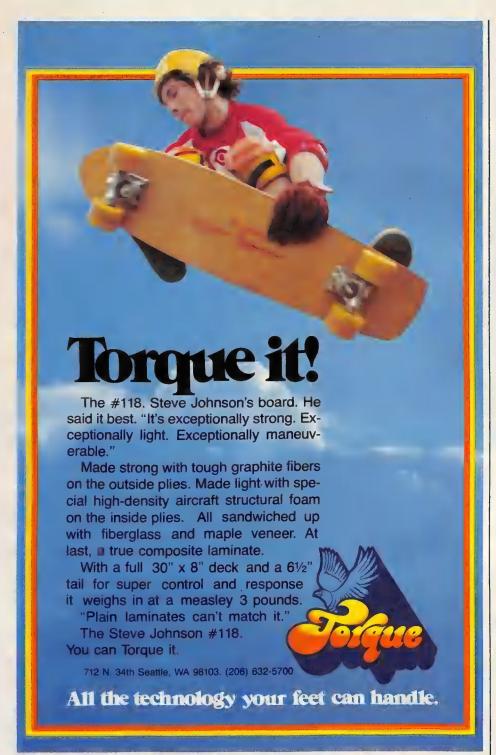




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OLYMPIC BID

I'm writing you about a letter I sent to Olympic Committee. I asked them if skateboarding would be in the 1980 Olympics. Their answer read: "There are no indications that the recreational pursuit of skateboarding could ever qualify for consideration as an Olympic sport or be accepted internationally as a recognized sport."

Todd Vinson Verner, W.VA

"First of all, that statement relates to recreational, not competitive, skateboarding. Sally Anne Miller of the ISA says, "I think we can do it." The ISA has been working on the matter and now has a 200 pg. rule book. They tell us that other foreign countries, especially Italy, Canada, France and Belgium, are interested and already organizing an international federation for the purpose of gaining acceptance for skateboarding as an Olympic sport. The day will come . . . but, it seems, not in 1980." S.M.

GLAD YOU ASKED!

Either I have a psychological problem or you do. Every time I open Skateboarder all I see is male skaters riding pipes or bowls. Whatever happened to slalom, downhill, freestyle, or even girls?

Michael Vogeley Pound Ridge, N.Y.

"See pg. 116 for the Colorado slalom season wrap-up and pp. 112 and 114, respectively, for Who's Hots on Vicki Vickers and Leilani Kiyabu." S.M.

I would like to mention how much I enjoy your publication and look forward to your new "equipment evaluation" section in upcoming issues. It should be much more valuable than the subjectively written equipment update section.

Thirty, getting younger Scott Pringle

Yoncalla, OR

"Turn to pg. 999." S.M.

I have just been looking at some of my old magazines and saw the "freestyle symposium" and thought maybe you could put in another one. Maybe even a little bank freestyle.

lan Griffitsh Ambler, PA

"Watch for "Freestyle in Transition" in our February issue." S.M.

INTERNATIONAL POST

Hi! I'm just writing to tell you all that things are getting much hotter than what has been told in some other letters you've received from Brazil. Well, we have a couple of parks now, and in São Paulo, there are a total of three. One of them, called "Wave Park," is the most radical around. We



"My name is Kevin Reed. I do this for a living."



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Slentepark Suquel

Kevin Reed in a 360 aeriel. Photo by John Shower.



also have a national skateboard magazine, but everyone likes SKATEBOARDER best! Milton Silveira São Paulo, Brazil

I am a Filipino skateboarder who just loves to read your magazine. Whenever I get a new issue of SKATEBOARDER, I scrutinize it until the pages are dilapidated. I get a lot from your magazine: one, it keeps me up to date on techniques and equipment and second, it keeps me striving. There aren't any skateboard parks here, so freestyle, slalom, and speed races are more the scene. I wish you would talk more about freestyle techniques but keep featuring guys like Pineapple, Tony Alva, and Jerry Valdez. Keep rippin' but look out, Filipino skaters are on the way. Louis Casambre Manila, Philippines

The American skaters had better watch out 'cause we British skaters are right behind you — and we're gonna blaze! The Bone London, England

ROLLERMANIA REVERBS

I'm a full-time longboarder, writing in response to a letter in the Skate Post I found a bit hard to stomach. Some paranoid roller skater (Surfer-Blue), apparently thought R-skaters deserve more publicity from SKATEBOARDER than longboards. Having enjoyed several roller sessions myself, I find no connection between roller skating and SKATEBOARDING! Will you challenge Dorothy Hamill to skateboard or surf? I have nothing against high rollers, just morons who write stupid letters.

California

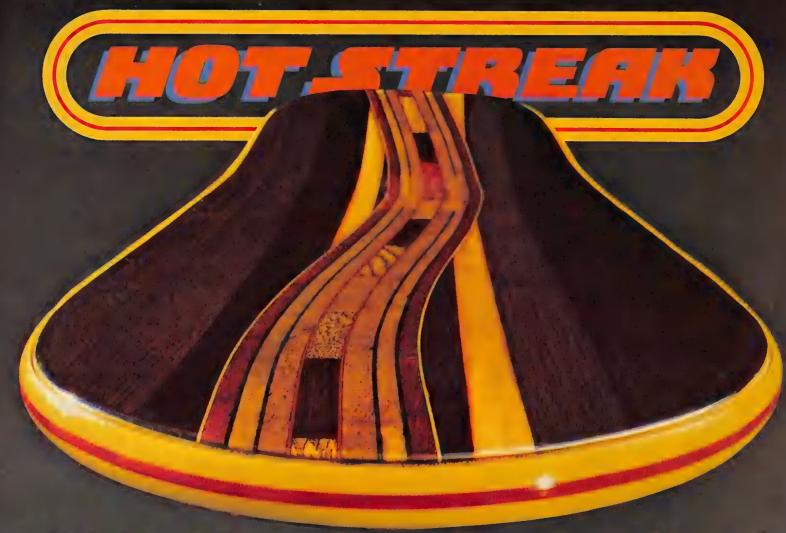
"Hmmm . . . does Dorothy Hamill roller skate?" S.M.

I've been roller skating for about four years in pools and pipes and never have been given a chance to be in a magazine. I feel that you should give all roller skaters a chance or do a couple more features on roller skaters.

Mark

Buena Park, CA

"You'll be happy to learn that due to the success of last issue's "Rollermania" we will be bringing out ROLLER SKATING Magazine this winter (there will be no Rollermania Part II). Although we will continue to cover roller action within skateboard environments, this special issue will feature rink and strand skating as well. In the meantime, keep rolling." S.M.



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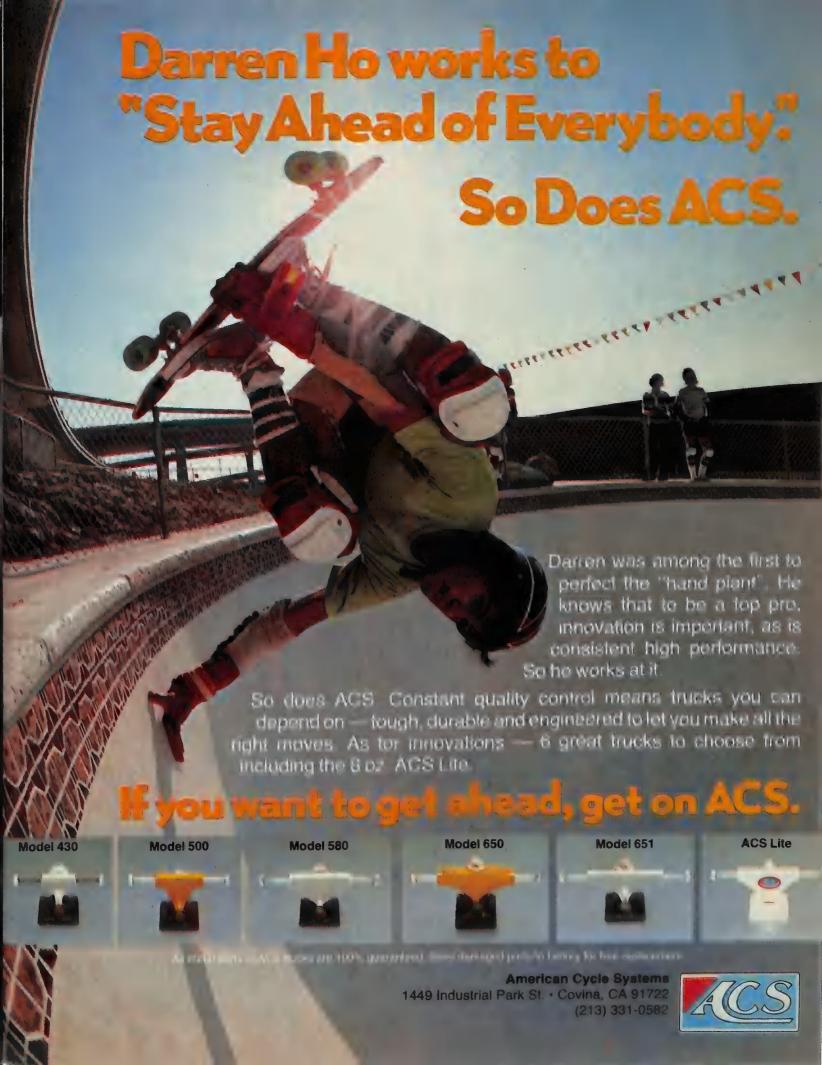


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CRASH & BURN

In your August issue somebody wrote in suggesting a crash and burn section in your mag. I totally agree! I think it would be hot to see guys wipe out in pools, pipes, etc. Mike Jacobson Los Angeles, CA

I think the mag. is rad, but what about a crash and burn section?

David Johnson

Ft. Worth, TX

All you sick sadists feast your eyes on pgs. 58 & 59. S.M.

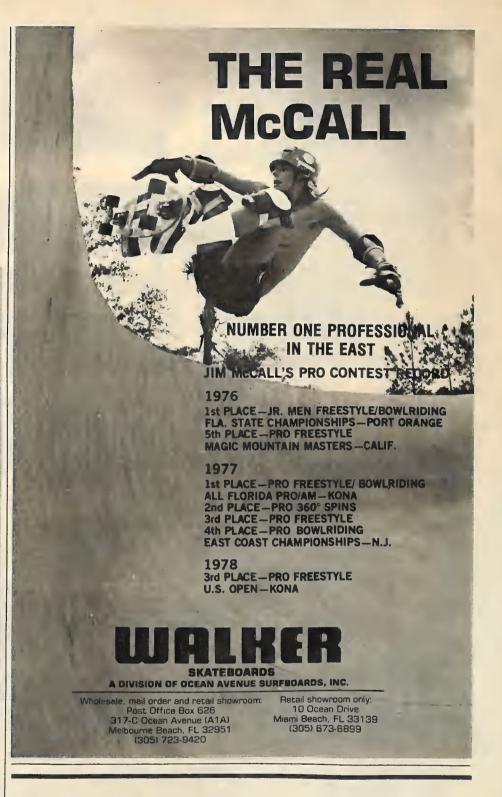
SKATERS PRAYER

Our Alva who art in Skateboarding, Mad Dog be thy name. Thy parks will come, Aerials will be done, in Upland as they are in Spring Valley. Give us this day our daily Greenies, And forgive us our Bongos. As we forgive those who Bongo against us: And lead us not into Florida, But deliver us to California. For Dogtown is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen. The Most Revrand Mark Synnot Australia

OH, YEAH!

phobia or somethin' when it comes to the Florida scene? I mean Cal is cool—where it all began and all—but Florida is gettin' HOT! There's lots of dead, first-generation parks here, but there's also a lot of young blood comin' up! Hungry in the Sunshine State
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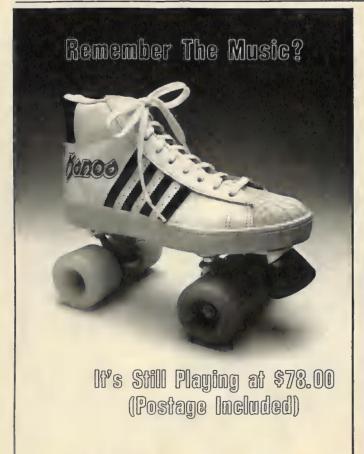
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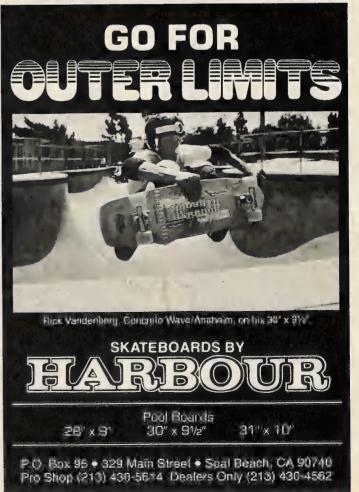
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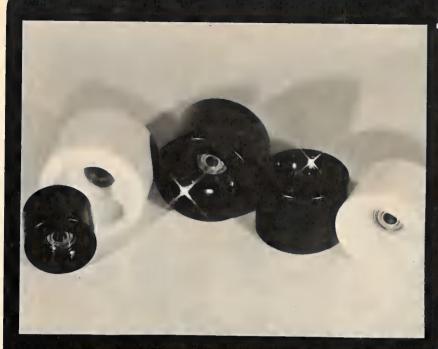




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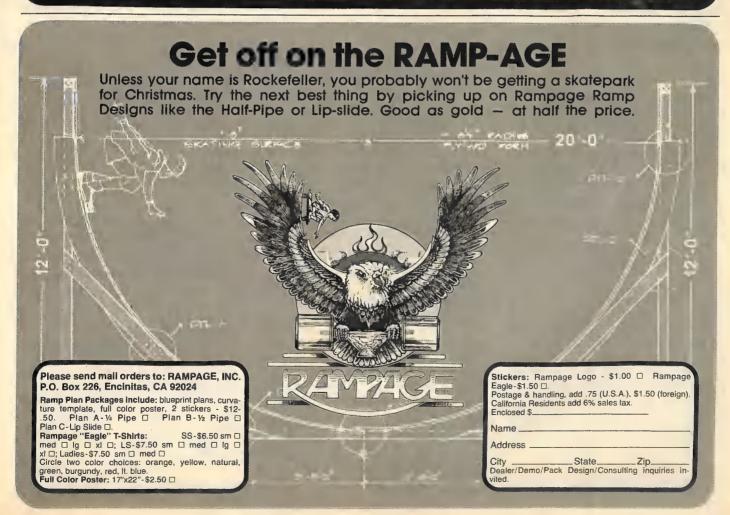
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"SNAKING"

by C. Hesselgrave

Skaters have been snaking each other ever since skate spots first started to get crowded. The old riverbeds and reservoirs used to be free-for-all's with riders taking off left and right. Today this continues, though the setting is usually the skatepark. Those of you who have never encountered the related overaggressiveness and bad vibes should consider yourselves lucky. Those who have know only too well what I'm talking about. Snaking and fun, safe skateboarding just don't mix.

For those who are unfamiliar with the term "snaking," it might be defined as: Taking more than your fair share of rides by playing on the timing and hesitation of your fellow riders. When a group of skaters are standing ready to go in the take-off area, a tempo develops in the take-off pattern. When the run is not crowded, or the skaters are all friends, everyone goes in turn and all get an equal share of rides. Each rider is permitted to go at his or her own pace and plenty of time is allowed for the previous rider to get out of the bowl. Crowded conditions and aggressive behavior change this tempo drastically.

In a snake session, aggressive skaters dominate. Snakers become impatient with riders not as skilled as they are and snake by taking off ahead of the less aggressive, cutting them off and sometimes forcing them to jump off their boards in order to stop. I have seen sessions where the snaking was so bad that many skaters got no rides at all, some trying for half an hour or more and getting aced out every time. Snake sessions also happen among groups of good skaters. The energy of the session builds to a point where competition for runs gets extremely heavy.

Beyond the general bad vibes that snaking creates there are serious safety problems created, too. Among them: the possibility of collision between the rider entering and the rider exiting; loose boards in the runs from a rider who is cut off or the previous rider falling; collisions between two riders taking off at the same time; instability of the rider taking off due to having to avoid people and boards. It is common in intense sessions to see the next rider take off as soon as the previous rider stops his run by falling or turning toward the entrance. In a fraction of a second, two or three skaters will lunge toward the opening, one usually prevailing. This kind of pressure is very hard on the novice and intermediate riders who need time to set themselves up as they drop in. It can also be hard on the expert, especially when he is forced to drastically change his line to avoid collisions. In short, snaking is unprogressive as well as being unsafe.

Snaking usually takes place in the best or most popular run in a park. Park management should pay particular attention to keep snake sessions from starting. Instructing the skate patrols to strictly monitor take off areas is a must. Many parks have found that ejecting persistent snakers is an effective way to control the problem. The best thing for an individual skater who finds himself in the middle of a snake session to do is to leave the run and skate another feature. Although this means that you can't ride the run you want, you'll improve faster by having the time and freedom to concentrate on getting better (rather than fighting for your turn).

Skaters are developing new maneuvers every day; moves not even dreamed of two years ago are today's old standards. Today's skater learns incredibly quickly. The atmosphere that most favors this learning is one that is relaxed and free from pressure. Intense, jostling snake sessions foster an almost opposite type of atmosphere. If you want to get really good, leave some room for your brother to get good, too. It'll benefit you both.



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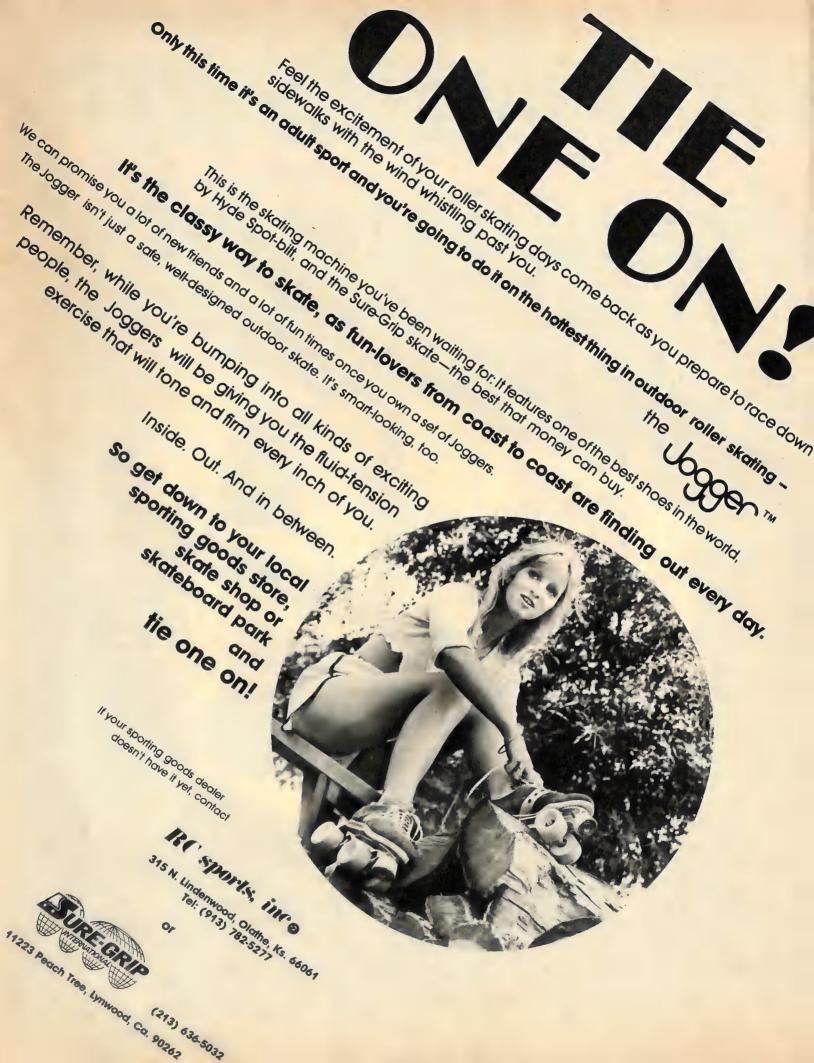


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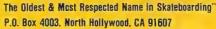


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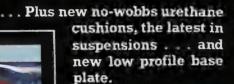


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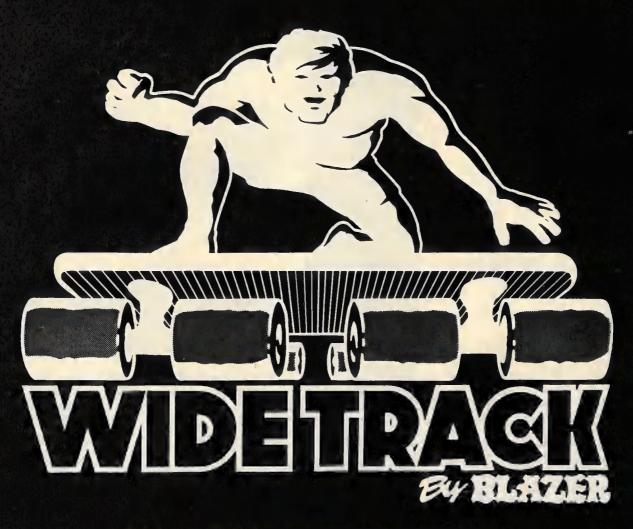
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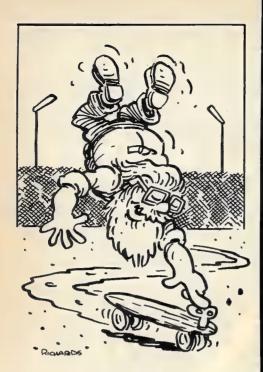


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SKATE TIPS Number Twenty-Nine

CARVING

by Kirk Talbot

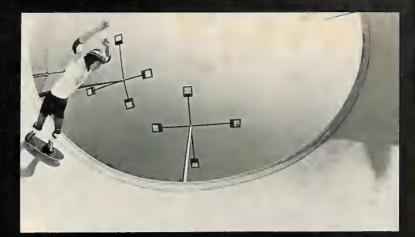
Carving, backside and frontside, is probably the most overlooked maneuver in these days of radical slides and aerials. The essence of carving is speed. That's the rush. There's nothing that compares to ripping a double axle grind in a hot pool! Carving is actually very easy, but it take some practice.

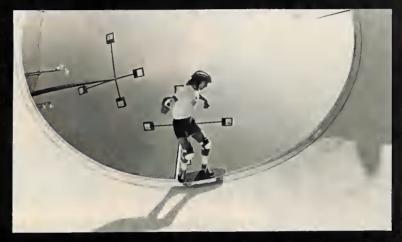
Backside carving

First of all, you need to draw out a line in your head. Start by taking a good push-off. Before you hit the transition, begin to compress your body. On the transition, thrust your body up and out of the bowl while keeping your body centered over your board. You should extend your body at the top of your carve to get the maximum height and distance.

Frontside carving

Carving frontside is similar in feeling to backside, but the technique is naturally different. Take a good push-off; then, thrusting into the transition, begin to compress your legs toward your chest as you near the lip. Coming back down, push away from your board while leaning in towards the bowl. Once you feel comfortable with the basics, there are numerous variations to work on: Double carves, one footed carves, carve-ins, etc. Remember, don't push yourself too far too fast ... And good skating!





"The essence of carving is speed!" 'Carving Kirk."



















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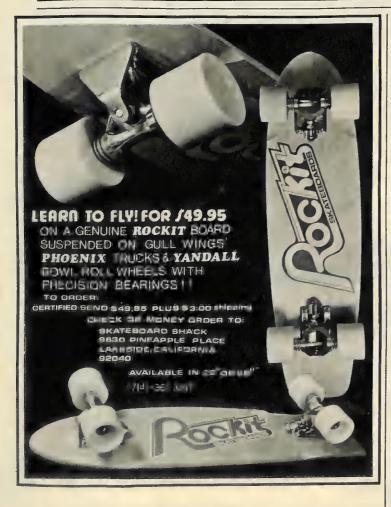
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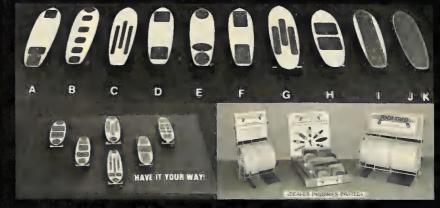
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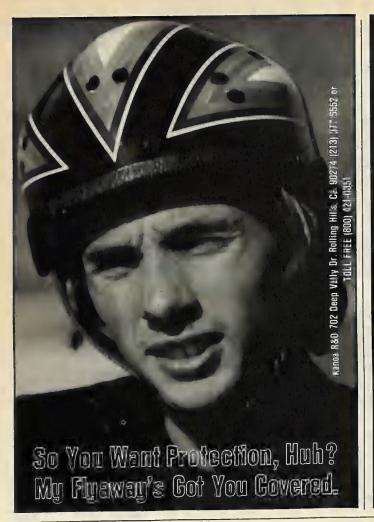
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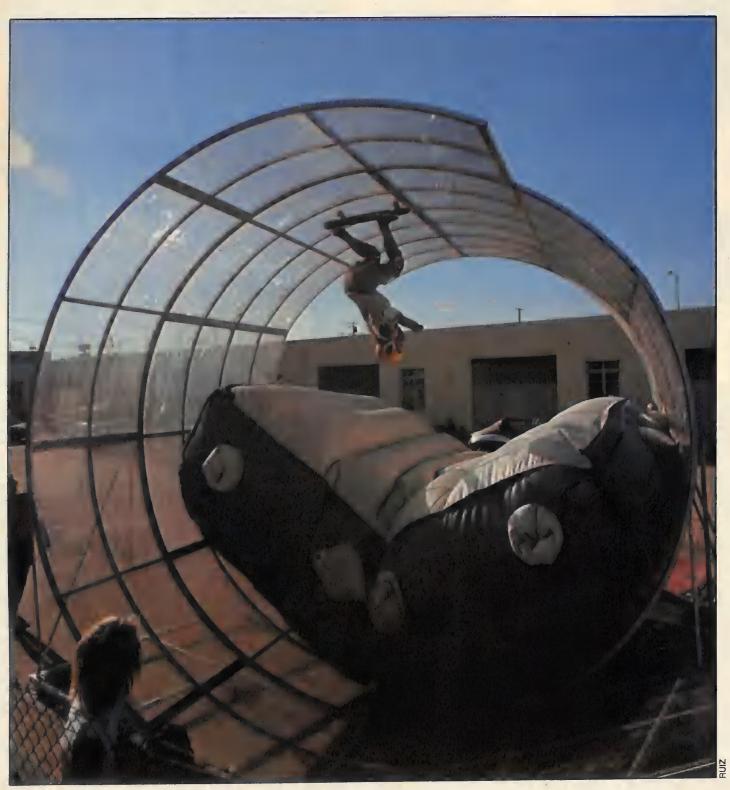
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Duane Peters, the one and only master of the short-lived "free," or non-track, loop. Here, Duane is seen during an early practice session (prior to making it without the airbag, prior to breaking his collarbone, prior to the addition of the track).

BY JEFF RUIZ

Since the mid sixties, the first sizable surge of skateboarding, the sport has emerged into a highly visual everchanging one with constant demand for new products and media. Many people with good intentions have jumped on the bandwagon trying to grasp their share of that good old "green-back," though often leaving the skaters in the cold. Naturally, when another so-called "skate show" emerges, we have to step back and wonder what road this crazy kind of sport has taken us down this time. Well, bros, relax! This is not a rip off; it's not another product promotion or milktoast presentation. What it is is Alchemy, Ltd.'s high-budget, super multi-media traveling arena extravaganza ... it's truly "Skateboardmania."

These words may sound a bit strong, but they still cannot really describe the talent, props and planning involved in this elaborate production.

Skateboarding is the vehicle, but it only shares the spotlight with original upbeat music, the Lazermedia light show, incredibly projected computer animation, Firestone's first-of-a-kind polycarbonate pool, and what many have not yet come to believe, Rad Ramp's 360° "Loop of Life."

Chris Brough, writer, producer and director of Skateboardmania, has dedicated himself totally in researching theatrical effects. From childhood, Chris has been what he describes as a "media freak." From theater to movies to television, Chris has long been in search of some ultimate thrill. Then, at last, with associates Henry Lazarus, Executive Producer, and Buck Reingold, V.P. of Promotions, and the proper financial backing, Chris went to work fulfilling his childhood dreams — with Skateboardmania. A 40'-high

Jeff Ruiz, a.k.a. Buffalo Head, has been closely monitoring the development of Skateboardmania and the Rad Ramp loop, almost since their inception. Although we at SKATEBOARDER have yet to see the full show, we trust Jeff's enthusiastic assessment isn't too far off base.







The costumes are a curious mixture of Alice in Wonderland and Star Wars. Pictured: Paco Prieto (top), Tim Marting (middle), Deanna Calkins (bottom).

Ouch!!! Duane, during one of his many misses on the original Rad Ramp Loop.







screen is a major factor in overall effect. Brough has assembled what he believes is the ultimate answer to his quest for "total involvement," or what he likes to call a "living movie," where the giant screen is a launching pad for an arena full of activity. Asked what makes a living movie, Brough replies, "In Skateboardmania I am inter-relating film, computer animation, live action, lights and music to form a total concept." Action will many times begin on the giant screen as computer animation which is programmed to reveal a three-dimensional form, and continue via lazer projection to the arena floor where performers skate in a myriad of massive futuristic ramps and sets.

We all know how the word travels in the skateworld! From the first day Alchemy, Ltd., contacted Sally Anne Miller of the International Skateboard Association (ISA) as a source of top pro skaters to audition, Sally's phone hasn't stopped ringing. (Even worse than usual!) Day by day, try-outs went on at the ISA office, drawing a "Who's Who" list of top skaters. Finally, a cast of about 28 (including understudies) was selected. From all schools of skating were the chosen ones — Ray Flores ("Earth Boy"), Vicki Vickers ("Space Queen"), Tony Jetton ("Ghost Rider"), plus a cast representing many manufacturers and even a few of the Alot-a-flex crew all the way from Oakland. Finally, the cast was set, the costumes were fitted and rehearsals began.

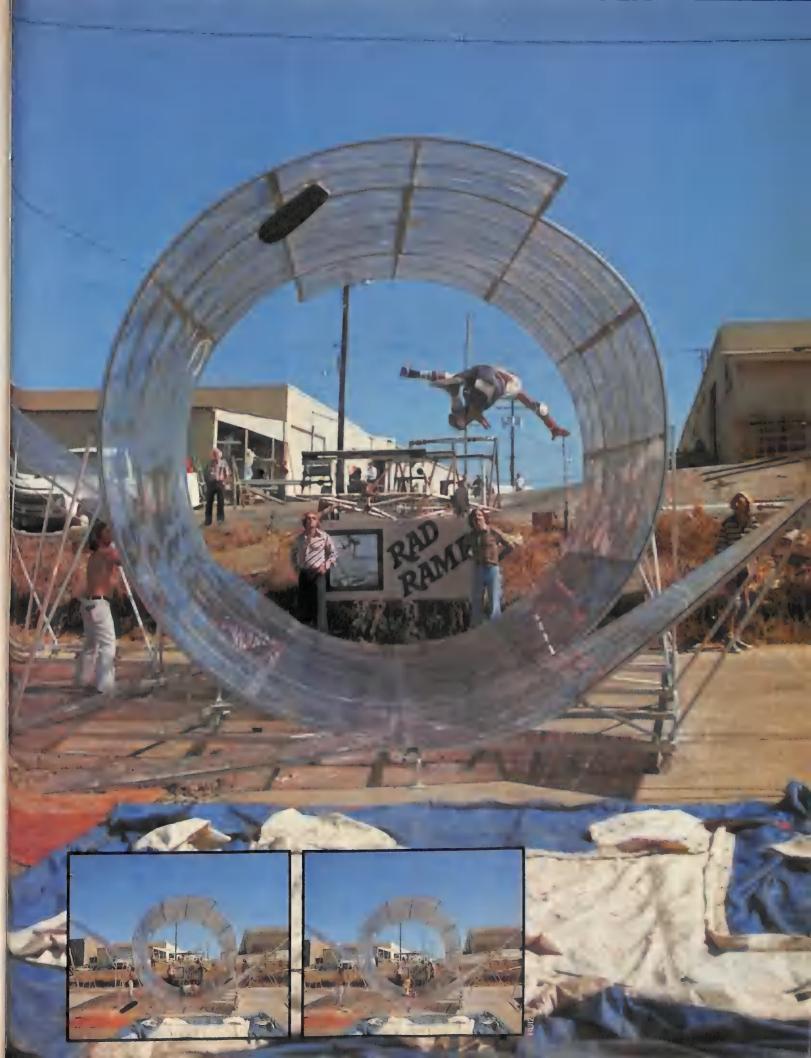
Stage 5 at Producers Studio in Hollywood, where rehearsals were held, must be the largest, darkest, loneliest place in the world; but it was barely large enough to hold all the props. Working full days, often well into the night, the cast rehearsed and the riggers worked. The skaters thought the rehearsals were abusive at times; but, now that they see the results, they know why. The stage managers and choreographers who drove them so hard had one objective in mind — perfection. From stage-hand to producer, most have strong production experience, with such shows as Disney on Parade and extensive rock and roll tours.

Skateboardmania is just one phenomenon after another. One of the biggest is, you guessed it, the 360° "Loop of Life." "You're doing what?! You're nuts!" No one could believe what Bill Shaffer and Todd Schlesinger of Rad Ramp were building for Skateboardmania behind their little shop in Costa Mesa, California. The 14'-diameter pipe with 17' approach ramp was to be kept a secret, but how could you hide something so obvious? (It was like trying to hide Dolly Parton in a tight T-shirt.) Literally every kid and his grandmother recognized the mass of steel and polycarbonate as a skate ramp and checked on its progress daily until it was complete, just to get a glimpse at who was going to be the first to ride that crazy thing. Day after day, top-name skaters would hear of the loop (they called it the "Death Loop") and would sneak by to take a look. A few tried it. (Many said they wanted to, but, for one reason or another, they didn't.) Alva himself took a look, but, unfortunately, he didn't have his favorite board that day. Even star











though an unsuccessful one. ("The ramp is absolutely awesome!") By this time, no one thought the full loop was ridable besides Bill and Todd and Rad Ramp riders Duane Peters and Paul Wooldridge (though I'd like to think myself, too). The only reason Duane and Paul thought it could be done was because Bill and Todd told them it could. Time after time, Duane and Paul would go for it, missing it, but not by much. Then an air bag was placed in the center of the loop for safety in case of a fall. Duane Peters made the long climb to the top of the 17' approach ramp; somehow everyone knew this was it. You could almost hear Duane's breathing. Then, one more look down the steep throat of the ramp into the pipe, and away he went. 22 mph down the approach, up to the 12 o'clock position and over he went. He made it! Missed the darn safety bag completely, but made the loop! The crowd went wild. All he could say was "that was the biggest rush any skater could have; I'm glad I was the first!" Bill Shaffer, designer of the loop, just smiled and

skater Tony Jetton made a go of it,

With "Ghost Rider" Tony Jetton scheduled to make the loop in every show, precautions had to be made for his safety. How could someone make it every time? A special skate was devised by Skitch Hitchcock, Milt Moore, Rad Ramp and the Skateboardmania crew that would ride a preset rail around the loop and out; but believe me, it's almost as hairy with it as without it. Skitch, with his knowledge of the unusual skate, coupled with his skating and gymnastic ability, was the test pilot. The enthusiasm of his first time over was the same as Duane's first time. Skitch emerged as the master of the loop, gaining respect and admiration, making it time after time, still difficult but now consistently possible. Tony Jetton makes the loop in the show but with an even tougher disadvantage -Tony rides "goofy-foot" and has to make the loop backside!

said, "I told you so! I just had to tell

him how.

Good old "out-front" Skitch came up with his usual classic comment on









Skitch Hitchcock was an able test pilot on the altered loop . . . "It's almost as hairy with (the rail) as without it."

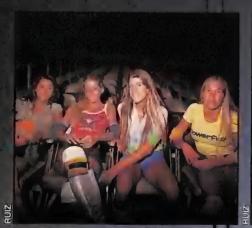
having to wear Tony's \$1,000-plus costume for a *SKATEBOARDER* photo session, "This sure is a pretty outfit but it feels like a \$3 Halloween suit." Our apologies go to the hardworking costumers!

Most important, the show has something for the whole family from a bigger-than-life 7' (in costume) bald, bearded rock-and-roll Dan White as "The Emperor," to freestyle veteran Bob Mohr in a red, white and blue sequined jumpsuit (I guess, his version of Wonder Woman). If you are one of those who is so "radical" that you couldn't enjoy some good natured comedy, lavish costumes and even a chance to see guys like Paul Hoffman

and other well-knowns dance (another aspect of the show), you just may be in the minority.

The show should prove itself a good vehicle in not only promoting the skaters in the show and the various manufacturers they ride for, but it could also prove a big plus for the sport of skateboarding. Or, maybe, Skateboardmania will be a big plus for show business.

Anyway, check out the show for yourself during one of its 120 stops around the country. You'll probably agree. Skateboardmania is much more than just hot skateboarding — but you won't be disappointed!



Skateboardmania Indies: Lelani Kiyabu, Vicki Vickers, Kerry Cooper and Lauri McDonald.



The Evil Emperor," Dan White



Alot-a-flex's good natured partners





While there's a lot that can be said about a multi-talented character of increasing influence in skateboarding's vertical and competitive areas, Chris Strople's own early influence and cohort, Tom Inouye, in the typical Wally way of wasting few words, seems to have summed him up best. He just laughs and calls him, "The Bionic Boy." Judging from the abundance of enthusiastic feedback, this interview seems to arrive at a particularly appropriate time as Chris has, in the short space of two years that we here at SKATEBOARDER have been aware of him, rapidly developed into one of the most conspicuous sources of creative input and inspiration -as many of his peers in the ultra-elite will be unusually quick to testify.

"Taught him everything he knows, now he's better than most." — Tom

Inouye

"Ć.S. is one of the few skaters who spends more time above the coping than on it." — Roy Jamieson

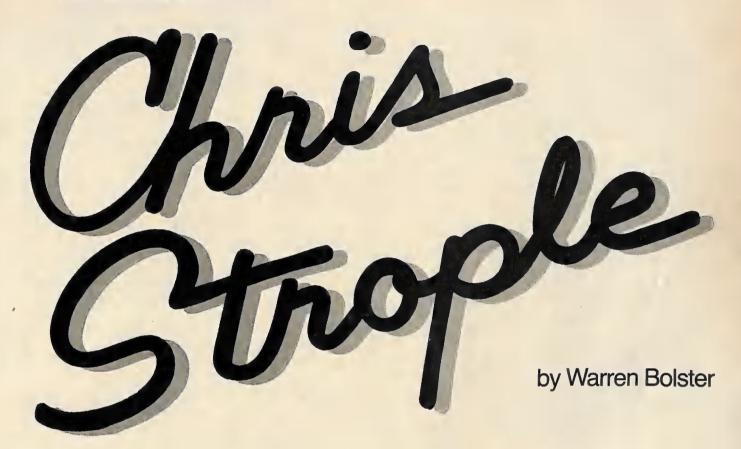
"With Strople, anything is possible."

- Larry Bertlemann

As there are so many blazing, red-hot super aces setting down new ups everywhere, it isn't always too easy to determine what makes one person more recognized than another. Luck and a minor degree of skill are not always what separates the successful few from the pack. It wasn't until after this interview began that I started to realize what really separates Chris Strople from the crowd, even from most skaters in the elite. Strople has a uniquely rare balance of mind and body. For an eighteen-year-old, he's amazingly aware of himself. He knows where he's been and has a convincingly confident perspective in where he's going.

There's a lighter side to Chris Strople that provides continually for some amusement. It seems that the bionic mind and body are fueled by a bionic appetite, considering his ability to consume his body weight in edibles. "When he has the bionic munchies, he can put away more food than a fat man -and his ribs still show!" - Ed Economy. Roommates, Ed Economy and Tom Inouye, who are all-too-frequent witnesses to this power, (food prices being what they are now) have been known to place a cigarette under the cheese on the only slice of pizza left after a Strople feeding frenzy; then, after placing it in the sink, they'd wager as to how long it would take for him to eat it and turn green. We hear thirty minutes is a safe bet. W.B.

SkateBoarder Interview:





CASCIMIS

Before skateboarding what were you into?

I started playing baseball when I was seven and I was already pretty coordinated. I adapted well, did really well in baseball and it helped me. When I was ten we moved from Pasadena to Sierra Madre, which is like two blocks away, and it was weird. It was, like, the influence of the people around me that — well — when I was in fourth grade I was basically out of control.

When you say, "out of control," what do you mean?

It was like I was fighting back. Things would happen that would blow me out so heavily that I would fight back. It wouldn't be against one person or anything, just through my actions, the way I acted; I was rebelling.

Do you think skateboarding offered any kind of release for that? Did it offer something to you...

At first, yeah. I could do it and I knew I could be good at it because I was already into sports. Skating seemed a good way to take out my aggressions.

Who has been influential to you since the beginning?

For one, Brian Perry. I didn't know him personally; but he and others during that early era were pushing the limits. It's just like in surfing. Today's surfers were influenced by the surfers of three or four years ago, guys who have gotten older, some who have already gotten burned out on it and have just moved on to something else. In skateboarding, the average skater is so young, the influence on myself by skaters like Wally, Waldo, Buddy Alldred and Kevin Anderson was important. Kevin especially. I mean, he's as rad as they get, still! He pushed the limits and beyond . . . he was like a pioneer in his time. He developed a lot of the go-for-it spirit! He pushed the limits for that period and set the precedents for skaters to follow, the same way Lee Gaheimer and Mike Cantu did.

... And Tay [Hunt]?

Well, Tay developed from Lee and Mike's influence. But, like, Wally's a first-generation skater. He was in there, he had a natural energy flow on the banks.

Who else was influential to you down the line?

I went through periods where certain guys were influential on me, but being younger and more eager to learn, I surpassed them. They still rip in their own way.

You learned ■ lot from them?

They taught me so much, it's insane! They gave me various roots, whereas today a lot of skaters tend to copy stereotyped styles that have been well publicized.

Where dld you first meet Wally?

I didn't really meet him at first. It was like December of 1976, when they first opened Montebello, that I first saw him ride. I was skating there regular; every day I'd go there from school and put in more and more time. I was still playing other sports, though, soccer and stuff. Then I saw Wally skate and his style . . . he was incredible. Montebello's design was a little bit unfunctional and it had to be adapted to. You would ride the pools and work up a level each time you rode 'em. Eventually get 'em wired. That's what had to be done at Montebello. But Wally, he already had it wired! He knew every line in there and how to skate it. See, I'd push it but I had no real style . . . I could do the maneuvers, wheelers and all back then, but my style was jerky.

Not enough control, maybe?

I had control but it was more like I was hyper when I skated, you know, releasing energy that was stored in me. This is what I was getting into when you asked me about being rowdy, what it led to. I released energy that was stored up in me, angry energy. I'd get in a fight and then go skate and release all this energy. But when I saw Wally skate, it was just like he was effortless. He could do everything, surf-style or whatever, but he just flowed and I thought, "I gotta meet that guy." He had the unreal equipment and was in there on what was happening. He was a source of energy like the magazine is. A lot of people back East know this; like the magazine is, you know, a bible to 'em . . . Well, Wally had come in contact with that energy through contests, the bigger ones that I wasn't exposed to (being in the area that I was). But beyond that, when I first saw him riding a pool, he did lines and moves that made me think he put some thought into his skating. You could tell, the lines he pushed, he'd just always progress. He's still like that today. Whereas with most of the younger skaters today, with the exception of a few, their lines are all copied; they've been done. Wally taught me how to think when I skate. Release the energy but release it with control. Curtis also influenced me in that way. He helped me with the purely mental part

Anyway, after we skated Montebello, we started travelling. Wally knew this guy named Mike McCoy.

Taxi?

Taxi McCoy, I met him and he was doing a lot of things for Wally. He saw Wally's potential and he knew Wally was hot, so he started hanging around and finding out what skateboarding was all about. He started taking Wally around and just generally helping him out, tak-



"Skateboarding seemed a good way to take out my aggressions. Seal Bowl.

ing him to pools, getting him into photo sessions, taking him to manufacturers for sponsorship and such. After a while, I met him, too; and all three of us started going around and skating, getting really into it.

Did travelling to different spots make a big difference?

We'd go to most any skateable terrain, and that experience would help in drawing lines. Like at a new pool, I'd be able to adapt a lot easier, to figure it out a lot sooner than most people back then, cuz there weren't too many dry pools around.

When I met you at Skatopia, I don't remember any reckless drive, any need to release any pent-up energy: You came across to me as a very mellow, stoked, open kid . . . apparently by that point you must have transcended a lot of that rebellious nature, but at that point did you have any specific direction or were you just trying to learn or achieve what you could? Did you have any real goal at that time?

When I was at Skatopia, I'd done a commercial at Montebello; it was the first professional thing I'd done in skating. I made like \$50 or so. I was going to a few pools and I was starting to control my energy more and releasing it in more of a flow instead of in spurts. And by the time Skatopia was starting, I saw that I had the potential to be a professional skater in stature or quality.



"Release the energy but release it with control." Seal Bowl.

Do you feel you've already achieved that? Has your skating already reached a peak?

Not really a peak; but like, if you skate too much you can get kind of burned on it for a while. There's times when you skate, when you are inventive, wire a new trick or a new line, and then there's times when that creativity will level off. But each phase I'll get more consistent; I'll practice a new move and wire it before I move on to the next step. I won't actually move on unless in my own mind I'm really ready for it; mentally you have to be right. A lot of people hold back when they have the potential and it's because their mind's not in tune.

Do you consider yourself a very determined person? Do you have something you want to achieve?

Well, through my skating I'm just working to advance the sport. It should just go on and flow like any other sport.

The thing with skateboarding, since its resurgence a few years ago, the early progress was so phenomenal that the people involved with it couldn't even believe what was going on. What you're saying is that you feel it's important to keep that progress going?

Well, I'm not like the younger skaters. Some people think that if you're not on the scene for all the heavy competition, then you're out of it; but that's not necessarily true. There are times when you'll just lay back from that energy and go out

on your own and figure where you're at, consider the new things that haven't been done yet and how to do them. There's more than one way to promote that progress. Competitions are helpful in advancing the sport. But travelling, doing demos, is another side of it; it has to be done to get people to realize that it's not just a kids' game anymore, it's a sport.

Not everyone can compete: And the best service is to show kids an appreciation for what they can do on their own block in their own neighborhood, too. It's an individual sport...

What really keeps me going, as far as pushing the limits, is I know that I'm not ready to fall behind or be put back in the crowd; mentally and physically I'm still able to compete and travel to help the sport, to help my own cause, to help my company's cause.

So success in the sport doesn't necessarily mean winning contests?

Yeah, you don't have to achieve success through competition. A lot of skaters that weren't really known before have emerged through recent competitions into well-known skaters, whereas before it was basically how your fellow skaters felt about you and whether, in the eyes of the media, you were advancing the sport.

Even now there's skaters like Wally who have never been in E contest that

I know of, and yet they're still highly respected skateboarders. What is your own criterion for success?

Well, I want to attain personal goals and standards that I set for myself. I always try for number one, it's my mental attitude. And if you get there, fine; if you don't, you keep trying. But the way to get there in the sport at the moment is to be number one in competition. But I won't skate if I'm not mentally in tune to take the stress and the conditioning you need to go into competition.

If you were successful in competition, say you achieved your goal, what would you get out of that success? What would you do with that success?

Well, a lot of people think that success necessarily goes to your head. To a point, you should acknowledge that you have achieved success through the eyes of other people, but that shouldn't change the way you look at yourself. Like, if I became a "heavy dude," I would still want to better the sport. Being on top, people would look at me as an example to follow.

Do you consider yourself a competitive person?

Yes, when I'm mentally and physically prepared for it and I know I can do my best. Like, my best friend got killed recently and it just blew me out; and as a result I could not skate my best afterward. I'd go and skate and release energy, but I could not mentally hit 100%, and if you're mentally not 100%, your body can be 100% physically but you stil won't perform to your fullest. As for "success," it's just something above the normal standards that you can always strive for. You may never get it - I doubt if I ever will - but I'm happy in trying. Not that I want to be there, actually; but it gives me a feeling of satisfaction that I've tried for it. I'll keep trying.

So, you never feel totally satisfied at any one point?

No, not really.

You were saying skateboarding needs to be recognized as the sport that it is . . .

Skateboarding's different than other sports. It is different cuz it's new; it's just happening within the last couple of years. Baseball's been around for over a century, it's established. All skateboarding is now is the physical act. It's so wide-open right now because it's so young a sport that it could be led almost down any route. If I was number one, people would expect me to be setting the standards. To keep doing that, you still have to further the standards, not just stay on one level.

Your stardards would have to advance.

Yeah, you would advance to keep ahead of them ... as much energy as you pulled out of skateboarding to achieve your personal goals you should return. It's a cycle and it can't help but advance skating.

Is the sport presently on the right course?

At first there were companies in the industry that were in it for the good of the sport - like Earth Ski (Logan), and Bahne/Cadillac, they were making products to advance the sport. Now, it's come to where it's so big that there's companies that make products and businessmen who get into it solely for their own purposes, and not to advance the performance of the equipment. That doesn't do the sport any good. They're not putting anything back in; they're actually stealing ideas that are hardearned, often ruining them. These guys are often pushing bad stuff that kids can get hurt on. You've probably heard this a milion times. But possibly we're beginning to head back in the right direction. There's so much energy coming from the skaters that these companies can no longer do that and survive; people are now realizing that all the advertising and stuff about the shitty products is not true. The manufacturers have to look towards the professionals who ride the stuff to prove its quality. That's why contests keep the equipment performance level high.

... Even though you have a lot of experience and can look back and see the trends over the years. But from my perspective, I see you as part of a new generation, still (even though there's a lot of people newer than you).

You set the precedent. A lot of people gave me a lot of flack cuz you took pictures of me; there was this big trip about our shooting sessions because you were editor, but I never really thought of it that way at all. I knew my skating was good enough to get in there. But you set the precedents for Logan and . . . well, Cassimus and those guys followed you . And it's like you're the first generation and they're the second generation. From where I sit, for Cassimus it was just a thing he got into; and, now that these younger guys are in there and deserving, he's in there with them, publicizing them. They are growing. Showing people that it's not all T.A.; there's other people out there who rip.

You began at the very start in pools, you are really part of the new generation, right there in the Vanguard ... What do you see as the most important direction for the sport to go in? What do you think right new is really crucial to the sport?



"... you don't have to achieve success through competition." Del Mar Skate Ranch.

Competition is important. New competition is needed to see that it is actually a sport instead of a recreational thing, like miniature golf. The skateboard "shows" get it to the people too, but it doesn't...

... Show a firm foundation?

Yeah, whereas competition does, it shows that there's people in there taking it seriously.

Perhaps the public can relate to it better.

Yeah, they can relate to it a lot better than a show, which is only a sideline. I've been doing these demos and they're just sideline, too, a small example of energy.

Just a ritual.

But the public still gets involved with it.

If there's one single thing that you would like to see happen for skate-boarding at this point in time, what would that be?

What I could see as ultimate would be a feeling of unity among skaters. In Southern California we're ahead of everybody, not because we're super bionic or anything, but because we had the terrain to skate; and we've been able to advance further because of it.

People have to look to themselves. They've reached that point. You've noticed the progression in other areas. They've reached the point

where it's now time for them to take the reins and decide for themselves. They've had enough influence, maybe. That hasn't happened with the parks but I definitely see it happening with the skaters.

I was lucky because of the area I lived in. Like, Dogtown had its pools; and up in my area, it was the same thing. The people are wealthy and there's big old homes with pools, so I had the advantage of always trying new pools. There'd always be 5 or 6 happening at one time. You'd sometimes skate 'em all in one day and get the experience and knowledge of skating different terrains.

Do you see a point when the center of activity will shift from California? Especially now that the skaters in every other area are really competent; actually, they're hot!

I think as far as right now and the next year or next couple of years, it'll continue to be California. Florida and Texas and a few other places are catching up; but we still have the ultimate in terrain and things are progressing faster here.

Who do you feel are the most progressive, creative skaters today?

I'd say Dennis Martinez. Maybe at Oceanside [1978 Pro-Am] he missed out on a trick or something; but as far as overall performance all the time, he is the best. Slalom, I'd have to say John Hutson, though a couple of my very close friends are giving him a push, like Charlie Ransom and Steve Evans.



"I always try for number one; it's my mental attitude." Del Mar.

They're young; Hutson's been up there, he's had the experience that those guys haven't gotten, you know, but they're getting it now. In pool riding, right now Wally's hurt and stuff, but when he's 100%, he's one of the best cuz he draws more lines . . . but as far as right now, I'd have to say Blackhart, Folmer and Valdez are pushing it really hard; Alba, too, just because he's mechanical, consistent ... It's usually guys like Wally and Stacy, a lot of the older guys, who actually create the moves, and younger skaters, like Alba, take 'em and interpret 'em. It's the guys who have roots on banks that are still coming up with the moves; and the other guys learn through watching them. The younger ones have the advantage of already knowing it's possible.

Now that you're an established pro skater and you're expected to perform consistently in contests and demos, do you feel a pressure to take fewer chances? And doesn't that limit your creativity (cuz, obviously, you learn by taking chances)?

I've learned through experience that you don't want to push and try new things when you're hurt, or not mentally prepared. But, like, when I'm well and stuff, in a demo, for instance, you want to be consistent, so you do stuff that you have wired; only, once in a while, if the crowd is really stoked and you're picking up all that energy, you will go for it. But that just all comes from the atmosphere. When I'm skating by myself—I rarely do

skate by myself, I like to skate with somebody so I can get pushed — or with Wally, I'm always trying to advance and learn new stuff all the time, cuz there's so much stuff right now to learn. There's always something to learn, sometimes just variations of things you already have wired.

When you approach something new, is it a conscious, calculated effort? Do you think out first, or do you ever just go out and push yourself to a point beyond what you think you can do, past your own thought-out limits?

Yeah, but you know, it's rare. Upland contest, I was definitely pushing myself beyond what I was even physically in tune for. I was almost physically ready, but it was only 2 weeks after I was taken off medication for mono; I was really ragged out and tired and the finals took place at night [after skating all day], so I was really tired. But it was just the energy that helped me overcome a lot.

You were able to pick up on other competitor's moves...

No, I knew that I had the lines and moves in there; it was just how I could push myself physically and I pushed myself above my limits and connect moves. I never could previously, and I doubt I could ever do it again. It was just the adrenalin that allowed me to do it.

You're very conscious about being physically and mentally prepared to skate...

Curtis had a lot to do with it. At Montebello he was older than most skaters, and it's harder for someone older to heal; so he would not skate unless he was 100%. When he did skate, he'd rip; but otherwise he wouldn't skate. It's just bad for you to skate when you're hurt. You could just injure yourself. It could hurt you for the rest of your life. It's just not good common sense. Curtis taught me so much, you just couldn't believe it.

Along that line, what do you think the future holds in store for you after you peak in skating?

I don't think I'll peak for a long time. I feel I'm physically sound enough to compete; you know, athletes are in their prime when they're 24 and 25. Everybody has the idea you have to be 16 to skate and when you get old, you're a has-been. Older guys do have certain disadvantages, but too many of them are just in their heads. I don't feel old! Look at Stacy, he's older, but he's still hot.

And do you think you'll stay involved in skateboarding after you reach a peak?

Well, if il looks good enough to me, if it has enough potential to provide something for me to do, enough opportunities. I'm gonna go back to school, for sure. I think school is important.

How far have you gotten so far? What would you like to major in?

A lot of skaters today just quit cuz it's hard to go to school and skate; it's a lot. I made sure I had my diploma first. I took the easy way out; I had enough credits and just graduated early. But I'm definitely gonna go back to school, probably major in science, like meteorology. I was really into botany, too; also English and journalism.

Physically you've grown quite a bit since I've met you. How has that affected your performance? Is it an advantage or a disadvantage?

I've grown quite ■ bit. When I first started skating Montebello, I was a little smaller than Wally. So I've grown about 10" since then. I've skated hard during those years; and as I've grown, so has my skating, so it hasn't affected me much. Now, I just carry a little more weight and need a little more stiffness in my board.

What kind of equipment are you into these days?

I have my own model with Caster which is basically all my own design. It's basically a wedge kick. Right now I'm riding an 8¾" deck, CS model, Gull Wing trucks and Wings wheels.

The trend right now is towards wide, light skateboards. How do you feel about that type of deck?

If I had a size 12 foot, I'd ride a 10" board. I feel my board is for me. Other people may like it, but it's basically designed for my own riding preferences. If guys want wide boards, if that's what they like, they can ride them. My board is made for me.

What length is your model?

30". I only like riding 30" when I'm in a tight transition or a little pool or something; a littler board reacts quicker. As the terrain gets bigger, I like to increase the length so I can flow more with the board. Otherwise, it's like riding a small board in big waves; it's kinda squirrely.

What kind of maneuvers are you working on at the moment?

Right now I'm working on a combination airborne cess slide and rock walk, called an "alley oop." I've almost completely got it wired right now. It's kind of a reversed backside airborne. Cess slide in the air. It's the same motion, but you do it in the air.

What do you think about skateboarding's progress at the moment? It seems super progressive but finetuned. Do you see that there's a whole lot more to be done or is it just fine-tuning? Earlier it reached a peak, but the equipment was brought up to a level where it could go beyond . . . right at the moment, I can't even see a peak. It's progressing so rapidly that stuff that was hard a month ago is now possible and people are doing it.

It seems like there's a very real danger that the sport is progressing so far. Even in the fine-tune stages, it's actaully conceivable for a person who's just getting into It to think, "Wow, I'll never be that good, so why even try?" Do you think that it's happening?

People look at it and see that stuff is possible; before, people thought it was not possible and they worked on it and certain things brought it to a point where it became possible. These people just getting into it, like little kids, it's there for them to study, watch, think about, and they'll be doing it within a week. It's not like people look at it and can't do it—it's all possible for anybody who wants to do it.

Uh, what has been the most radical or mind-boggling thing that you've seen done?

Frontside roll in the pool by Rick Blackhart.

What do you conceive of as the ultimate terrain?

Different people like different things. Some like keyholes and kidneys. Me, I'd like a 12' square pool with rounded corners and about 4' of flat wall below the coping.

Why is that?

It's just what my roots are in; they offer so many lines, and the flatness of the wall between the curves makes it a little more difficult and weightless. It's just my preference.

Right now, people are saying that possibly the next Hester Bowl series will be performed on banks. What do you think about that?

I think that would be good; it will add another aspect to the sport for people who aren't really into vertical. Banks can be just as fun as pools. All vertical moves stem from banks, even the idea of riding vertical itself.

Assuming that they do have the bowl series on banks, who do you think might do the best?

Stacy and Tom Inouye, Wentzle Ruml a few others.

How do you think you might do yourself in ■ contest like that?

I'd have to practice. I'd do fair. I'd give it my best. I always start to learn all my vertical moves on banks, except for aerials.



"I don't see anything that will slow me down in the future." Del Mar.

What type of banks do you like to ride the most?

The freestyle area at Del Mar is fun. I rode the VC reservoir once, and that, to me, is the ultimate in banks.

What are your opinions on freestyle? Would you like to see a Freestyle Hester Series?

It'd be a gas! If something occurred like that, like these contests now — it was bowl riding all season — they could have bowl riding for 4 months, freestyle for 4 months and maybe slalom for 4 months to make up a year. I like to slalom; freestyle I've done since I began skating. Before I got into vertical riding, I entered (freestyle) contests; it's unreal. It really quickens your reactions.

Now, looking ahead, do you feel confident about your prospects of competition in the future?

You have to be consistent to be able to compete well and when you travel you don't get really enough skating time as you need. Like Alba or Dunlap or someone like that skates vertical 8 or 10 hours every day. When you're on the road you don't have that consistency. Now that I'm back and skating every day, I feel that I have a good chance.

You're riding for Caster now. What made you decide on him in particular?

When you first photographed me, I was independent; Wally was helping me out. He kept me in equipment and when my first pictures were run, Sims saw that and he picked me up. Sims did a lot for me, got me around at first, cuz I was unknown; he helped promote me and

my name and I, in turn, promoted him. It was a good thing. And then I met Billy Caster and the guy is unreal. He has so much soul and energy. I met him, and I designed a board with him. Sims didn't even know this — but I did it anyways, on impulse. So after a while, I didn't know how it was actually gonna work out; he went out, marketed the board and started doing fair. Then Sims offered me this contract, but if I would have actually stayed behind it, it would have eventually been bad for me. So I bailed on it; I signed it, but I bailed out cuz I was only 17, which was kind of a bummer because I went back on my word. But I talked to Billy again and he said, "Maybe we can get something together, make your board," and I was stoked. I haven't regretted it since; people thought I would, but I haven't. He's so cool to me! It's so unreal, I can't believe it.

Do you have any basic philosophy that you adhere to?

Yeah, well, I have a philosophy that I do what I myself feel is right and what's gonna do the best for me whether it's short-term or long-term. Sims, in the short term, was great for me; but I saw a potential in Bill because his standards are closer to mine. He will not produce this may sound like a plug but it's not anything but total quality before it comes out. With my name or his name. We both, well, he made me a board I can ride. I can perform my best on. My basic philosophy is that I just do what feels right and what is gonna be best for me. In people's eyes my judgment may be wrong; but sometimes you just have to trust yourself.



PARTI



(a-f, left to right)

"I was assisted in the design and building of these boards by George Powell and Michael Gordon."

(a) ALUMINUM HONEYCOMB — 31" long, 9" wide, 1.8 pounds weight. Used for pools and banks. Characteristics: "Light, stiff, wheel wells. A glimpse of the future.'

(b) SINGLE BEAMER - 30" long, 81/2" wide, 2.3 pounds weight. Used for banks, small pools. Characteristics: "Stiff, strong, you don't need wheel wells because of the raised center beam."

(c) DOUBLE BEAMER — 301/2" long, 91/4" wide, 2.5 pounds weight. Used for pools, pipes, banks, etc.

Characteristics: "Strong, stiff, a good all-around board; its lightness aids in aerials and slides.



Stacy, Lakewood.

(d) REGULAR LAMINATED DECK ---301/2" long, 91/4" wide, 2.9 pounds weight. Used for pools, pipes, banks, etc. Characteristics: "A basic tough laminate."

(e) FREESTYLE SINGLE BEAMER — 28" long, 8" wide, 1.9 pounds weight. Used for freestyle. Characteristics: "Real light, quick and maneuverable. Good for fast footwork, 360's and slides.'

(f) QUICKSILVER --- 29" long, 7" wide, 2.1 pounds weight. Used for slalom exclusively. Characteristics: "An aluminum-sheathed hardrock core, with over-chambered profile; excels in tight slalom courses.

TRUCKS: Tracker Trucks are used exclusively. Full Tracks for all vertical riding and banks. Mid Tracks for freestyle.

WHEELS - Bones Resilients. "Resilient, smooth and super fast."

Gregg Ayres



Gregg, Rags and respective quivers.

FOR VERTICAL — Sims Flying Wedge, G. A. Model, 91/2" at widest point, 8" wide at tail. Constructed of maple and mystery wood, laminated but totally stiff. This board also has a solid wood wedge block kick, which is fairly severe, and comes in 30" and 31.5" lengths. Also pictured are two boards tested while developing my model: both are 31" long of Brazilian ash laminated with slight flex and about 5 oz. of resin on the tail to increase the amount of kick. I use E. T. Griptape on top for minimum foot slippage. For trucks and wheels, I use Tracker Fulls and very hard Sims Green Comp II's. FOR BANKS - Either my model, or a



Gregg, Desert Pipes.

Krypto Board, or a skinnier (7.5" to 8") wood board, depending on the kind of banks to be ridden. For wheels and trucks on banks, I use Sims Comp II's or YoYo's (they slide the best) with Mid or Full Tracks.

FOR FREESTYLE — My original models cut down to 29-28.5" length. They're solid birch — very skinny — 6.75" at widest, and 4.25" at tail (and haven't been available for about a year). I use Bennett Pros with rock hard urethane rubbers and 60 mm green or blue Kryptonics.

FOR SLALOM — Invisible model, without a doubt the hottest, fastest slalom board ever.

Steve Cathey



(a-g, clockwise from top)

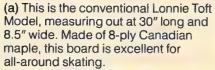


Steve, Del Mar.

- (a) 311/2" x 10" G & S PROTAIL SERIES MODEL Used for all my pool riding.
- (b) 32" G & S KT4 MODEL For downhill slalom.
- (c) 30" G & S KT4 MODEL Used for bank riding.
- (d) 40" LONGBOARD Used for surf-type skating.
- (e) 28" G & S TEAMRIDER For all my freestyle.
- (f-g) 2-28" G & S TEAMRIDERS I use these two boards for my 2-board maneuvers.

Lonnie Toft

"I feel maintaining a complete variety of skateboards for all types of skate terrain is a necessity in becoming an all-around skater. All of my boards are very wide and they have been that way for several years now. When everyone else was riding 6" wide toothpicks, I was cruising on boards in the 8-to 9" range. Keep skating, and above all, 'keep it wide.'"



(b) This Toft Model is the same as the one listed above, only it is 27" long and a little narrower.

(c) My Super-8 is a stand-up skateboard, measuring 44" long and 17" wide. A specialty board used for a good time.

(d) This Sims Outrageous 8-wheeler is made from 4-ply laminated maple and fiberglass. Super light, strong and flexible, it is equipped with Mini Comps on custom cut trucks; Half Tracks on the inside and Mid Tracks on the outside for the purposes of more drawn-out and stable turns in skateparks and pools.

(e) This is my freestyle 8-wheeler; it's the same construction as the above. Half Tracks are used all around.

(f) My Sime Freestyle serves as a stand-by freestyle board; it is 27" long and has Tracker Half Tracks and Sims Mini Comps.

(g) My Sims Superwide Lonnie Toft Model is made of 8-ply Canadian maple; it is 31" long by 9.5" wide. This is another wide, versatile skateboard designed for all types of skating terrain. I prefer Full Tracks and green Sims Snakes or Comp II.

(h) This Superwide Lonnie Toft is 33" long and 10" wide. It is a wide stable board for more-drawn out surfing-type moves with maximum control. I use Tracker Full Tracks and green Sims Snakes for full effect.

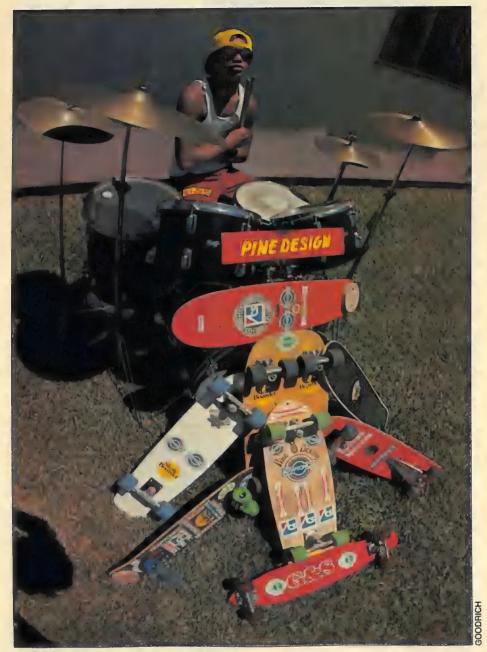


(a-h, clockwise from top)



Lonnie, Lakewood.

Doug Saladino





Pineapple, Oasis.

(a-h, clockwise from bottom)

(a) G & S CUTAWAY SLALOM BOARD
— I'm not really much into slalom but
I'm getting into it and riding it more.
(b) G & S EXPERIMENTAL WIDE
MODEL — This is a prototype for my
new signature model. I'm really stoked
at how it rides and how stable it is. I
think it will be one of the more
advanced boards for the pros to ride.
(c) 8-WHEELER — I used it for
freestyle in the Oceanside Contest

because it helped with points for the double-board maneuvers. I also use it for pools whenever I feel like it and for just cruising around.

(d) 30" G & S TEAMRIDER WITH ICK

STICK DECK AND SLIDER BAR—
This board is used for bowls with
rounded lips, such as the Upland
bowls. I don't use it a lot, just usually on
rounded lip bowls for lip slides.
(e-f) 2-G & S 28" BACK-UP

TEAMRIDERS — For every board I have, I also have a back-up board (which is a really good idea for every skater to have, especially in contests).

(g) 28" G & S TEAMRIDER — It's a smaller Teamrider model which I use in my freestyle skating. It's also good on banks for smaller kids to ride.

(h) 30" G & S TEAMRIDER, 7%" WIDE — This is my general purpose board; I use it for pools and banks mostly.

Ed Econom

"I use Trackers for full radical grinds and Lazer Trucks for my more stable, smoother skating. I have several other boards in my quiver, but they are so popular that people are always borrowing them from me. Also, I made every one of my boards myself, by hand."

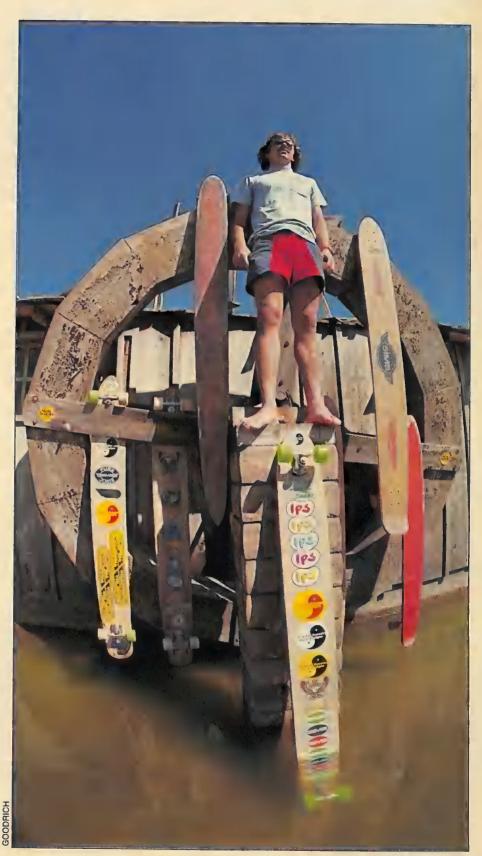
(a, b, f) 3, 5 FOOT LONG BOARDS -For all of my radical riding. I can ride these anywhere anyone else can ride a regular length board. These are my aggressive, ripper boards. One of them is made of ash for easier, quicker maneuvering; the others are made of birch to make them heavier for full radical grinds.

(c,d) 2, 6 FOOT LONG BOARDS WITH KICK TAILS - I use these for banked-wall cruising. (e) 6 FOOT PINTAIL — For carving pools. Also, for general freestyle, like

nose wheelies and kick-flips.









Hot young Jeff Jones plays the full pipe at Fyber Rider, Lakewood, New Jersey, where his skating experience first began.

It was back in April or May that our ever-enthusiastic contributing photog, Glen Friedman, came to us with a proposal for a comprehensive East Coast piece. He was to be in the Northeast for the long, hot summer (his stay is now indefinite), making the rounds with John Woodstock; so we could expect a mini-portfolio on fresh local action. Due to longtime problems in fielding quality Eastern photos, coupled with the current upswing in regional vertical riding, the opportunity was extremely welcomed. John Ker, a writer and surf/skate enthusiast from New Jersey, was immediately contacted for words - a homegrown view of sorts on the Northeast scene. To round out the picture, travelling skate entrepreneur, Hunter Joslin, would provide an update on the Florida energy centers, with local sharp-shooter, Bruce Walker, and others adding the visuals. (Hunter will touch on the rest of the South in coming issues.) We were fortunate, too, in persuading Bruce to compose a few choice words on a related topic — last summer's invasion of Floridian talent into Southern California. As it turns out, certain East Coasters have been ripping on both coasts lately - and we were there.



NORTHEASTERN NOTES

BY JOHN KER AND GLEN FRIEDMAN

"In three-quarters of the places I visited I was totally blown away by the talent in the young skaters, the amount of radical skaters there were, and how quick all of them were to learn new things. They were like time bombs ready to explode. I definitely think they deserve more recognition than they're getting."
Wentzle Ruml IV Dogtown

For a long time SKATEBOARDER has offered a comprehensive vision of the sport in California. There has been occasional acknowledgment of skateboarding in other areas — notably Florida — but the true progressive riding, the frontier of skate knowledge, has always been in California. Well, for a few pages here the spotlight shall shine on one area where the skate stoke level is also very high, where skaters are also hungry for recognition. It's sometimes long in coming, but, eventually, every dog has his day.

For purposes of this overview on Northeastern skating, we have ranged far and wide in search of new talent and terrain. We have sought out the hottest skaters and parks. I'm sure we missed a few of them, for this is a vast area. Thus, we offer our apologies and hope to catch them in the future.

"Being an East Coaster is rad! We strive for perfection, we're still learning about radness and love to skate all the time, no matter what. We're not quite as good as California yet; but we're not far behind, either!"

D.W. Maryland Skater

To start with, this visual and verbal discussion may surprise some people.



Clean pooler, Luke Moore.

The East Coast is not quite as far behind California as many of you might think. While the main energies in California are basically centered in rather specific areas (e.g., Dogtown, San Diego County and Santa Cruz), the East Coast is *very* spread out, energy-wise.

In the near future, the Northeast may evolve into a major energy center itself. At present, the hottest skaters in the East generally admit that a good percentage of their skating knowledge comes from reading the magazine and studying the new maneuvers in the photos. The Eastern skaters show no apparent lag in picking up on current equipment developments. In fact they seem to be developing, virtually simultaneously, the same ideas and trends as California. One such example is the movement toward "pig boards."

The Eastern skaters have been into them since July; and, if you remember back, that is about the same time the wide board became popular in California.

The greatest lag, of course, was in the proliferation of skateparks. Now, however, the scattering of rideable parks in the Northeast is beginning to have a tremendous influence on the skating. Up until just about a year and a half ago, most skaters in this area who wanted to get vertical had to depend on occasional empty swimming pools and backyard ramps. They were few and far between at that. Nowadays, the more widespread construction of parks is causing a consequent growth in the number of skaters in the Northeast—and the evolution of some strong talent.

"The evolution of Northeast skating has been progressing slowly because



Brian ("Dig It") Maples, ■ New Jersey surfer/skater, works out at Seaside Height's Monster Bowls Skateboard Park.



Philly freedom. Victor Perez wheeling well on Philadelphia Skateboard Park's demo ramp.

of scarcity of spots and good weather; but, on the other hand, the spirit is so high and the mental attitudes are so intense that it overcomes the obstacles we have to face while being a skater on the Northeast Coast."

B.Z. New Jersey

Most of the skaters on the East Coast might be termed, "Second Generation." They ride because that's what they truly want to do more than anything else. In California, most of the pro-skaters are also heavy surfers who are always in the water when the waves are good. In fact, that likewise applies to many skaters who live near the coast here. Although many of the East's nonsurfing skaters might like to try out our sister sport, the desire is not nearly

as all-consuming as it is in California. These kids are stoked to just skate. For most, the great desire here is to just "get rad" on a good skate.

It seems quite possible that this greater singularity of purpose could prove to be the most important factor in the ongoing development of skating in the Northeast. Kids who are only into skateboarding will channel a proportionately greater amount of time and energy in that direction. In the future it could well be that the hottest skaters will not surf at all, and skating will once and for all emerge a completely separate entity.

There are already many very able skaters out here. Every park we visited has its crew of hot locals. We have seen a few skaters so hot that they could even now challenge many of the pros in California. Natural ability levels appear

to be just as high as in California and the skate-stoke level seems even higher; though, for the time being, California still has the edge in radical skateboarding. However, there are a few problems that Eastern skateboarding will have to deal with yet. First of all, none of the Eastern parks can match the best California facilities. Most good skaters realize this. Some parks are too mellow, some have bad transitions, some have rough concrete, and some are too slippery.

"If a good park is built, people will drive for up to three hours to ride it. It'll have to have smooth transitions, a good pool with tile and coping, and, hopefully, a full pipe or hot half-pipe. If a really good park is built, it could put every other park in the area out of business."

Terry Sullivan
Point Pleasant, New Jersey

Eventually, highly advanced parks will be built in the Northeast. According to skatepark designer, Curt Green, the reason this hasn't happened yet is because the construction expense doesn't seem to justify the potential revenue. According to Green, a good pool is one of the most expensive designs going; and because only a few skaters can comfortably share it at a time, it offers just about the lowest potential profit per hour. A full pipe could be an even more expensive investment. Still, a park having neither a good pool nor a full pipe may eventually be abandoned by the better skaters in search of more excitement. It is no secret that skateboard sales have tapered off this year, so now it will take a truly skate-committed investor to put up the necessary money to build a better skatepark. To compound matters, many existing parks aren't doing the business they previously anticipated.

Obviously, most of the people who have built parks have done it to make money. They saw skateboarding as a booming new sport to cash in on. Now the picture is changing and the businessmen are seeking more guaranteed investments. In order for radical skating to advance in the East, someone will have to step in with the financial backing for better parks . . . someone who cares as much about the kids as his pocketbook.

Still, an investor could make a killing by building a few really good parks in this region. They would have to be radical and fully rideable. But there is no doubt that this type of enterprise would be successful. Kids are now traveling as far as California and Florida just to sample better parks. When the Northeast has facilities of that calibre, the skaters will stay home and skate! We hope that day is soon.

FLORIDA OBSERVATIONS

BY HUNTER JOSLIN

Florida's skateboard scene is second only to that of California, the development of the sport following much the same course. As in California, Florida has local identities such as the Ratlands (South Florida), Hogtown (Gainesville), and Rattown (Jacksonville). Each area maintains a certain amount of local pride and exhibits lots of talent. The following is a report on the state of skateboarding in the region, discussing the specific areas one at a time.

The Jacksonville area has been known for its high energy skating ever since Mitch Kaufman made the first elevator drop from Kona's monolith during the '77 Kona Contest. Z-Flex's Jirhmy Plummer came from Jacksonville and his style is evident in most of the locals' skating, like George Wilson, Billy Trotter and Terry Essick. Brigg and Dave Hart, owners of Hart's Weber House Surf Shop, sponsor these boys jointly with Z-Flex, and they certainly help keep Jacksonville one of the strongest energy centers in Florida.

Jacksonville has hosted the only two Pro contests on the East Coast to draw skaters from California. The first contest (held in September of '77) was run by Di Dootson and a squad of ISA pros, including Rus Gosnell, Mike Williams, Mike Weed, Bob Skoldberg and Henry Hester. This was the first chance many East Coast skaters had to see and skate with the "stars." But the second Kona contest, billed as the First Annual U.S. Open Skateboard Championships, drew many more California pros due to the \$2,000 first place prize offered for the bowl riding.

banked slalom and freestyle events.

Other than films and magazines, this

was the East Coast's first look at T.A. and the Dogtown Boyz. Also, to see



Glenn Klugel, flowing at Clearwater Skatepark, Florida.



Mike Folmer, a talent realized at the Cadillac Wheels Park.



Long respected East Coaster, David Bentley, took a strong 7th in the Pro Bowl Riding at the Kona US Open.

living legends like Bruce Logan and Torger Johnson was a treat to all the avid magazine readers at the contest. Probably the most important aspect of the Kona U.S. Open Contest was the meeting of the East and the West Coast skaters on a basis as much friendly as competitive. The bottle cap war in the pro shop was a free-for-all and the egos of the visiting Californians were not evident at all during the entire contest. Probably the biggest joke in all the skateboardom was present at this contest, as the promoter built the world's largest half-pipe ramp - 50 feet in diameter with 10 feet of vertical! \$5,000 was offered to the first skater to wheel the top . . . but nobody even rode it!

Bobby Mandarino won the banked slalom, while David Hackett won the bowl riding and Dennis Martinez blazed to first place in freestyle. The biggest surprize of the contest was young Shawn Peddie (from Tallahassee) who had the crowd constantly on its feet with his aerial assault on the vertical monolith addition to the bowl. He finished second in probowl riding and firmly established himself as one of the country's premiere bowl riders.

The Rattowners have done a lot for the sport; and, with new owners and management at Kona, hopefully even better things are still to come.

Daytona Beach is the home of Florida's first skatepark — Skateboard City — having, in fact, opened three weeks before the Carlsbad Park opened in California. The park is now fairly outdated but the energy still remains. Due to an early influence by Rodney Jesse, who was the first California skater to tour Florida, Daytona Beach has always generated a lot of interest and enthusiasm in the sport.

Daytona is the home of the East Coast Santa Cruz team led by Charlie Gonzales (who is one of Florida's hottest slalom racers). Charlie beat Henry and Skobie in the pro challenge banked slalom contest at the first Kona Contest in '77. Henry immediately recruited him for the Santa Cruz Team and Charlie went to California to race in the Catalina Classic. The experience he gained there has made Chuck a master of psyche and cunning, and Florida's man to beat in tight and giant slalom. The rest of the Santa Cruz Team consists of U.S. Open banked slalom champ, Bobby Mandarino, as well as Dave Narducci, Tom Mady and David Bedard.

The Daytona Beach Sidewalk Surf Shop, owned by Mark Lewis, sponsors several local hot skaters, including Jeff Croyl, Seadog, Kelly Lynn and Clyde Rodgers. Kelly was the number one 12-and-under skater in Florida in all events until he recently turned 13, but it should not be long before he dominates that age group, too. Fellow teammate, Clyde Rodgers, also skates all events well, but he is mostly noted for his vertical riding as evidenced by an impressive win over Mike Folmer and Alan Gelfand at the Gainesville Pepsi Team Challenge.

The Daytona Boyz have strong feelings about their skateboarding prowess and this has led to a rivalry with the South Florida "Ratland" boyz who have challenged all comers to a skate session at the C.W.S.C. "Monster Hole." A winter showdown is in the works and hopefully from this confrontation some sound conclusions will be reached on where the energy really lies.

On the West Coast of Florida there are a number of skateparks in the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area which are into promoting the sport. The Clearwater Skateboard Park last March sponsored the finest pro slalom and giant slalom event ever held in the Eastern United States, Muriel Yantiss, park owner in charge of promotions, put together the contest which had strong support from the city, local merchants and skaters representing more than 20 teams. Though the East Coast has only a few professionals, all the best were there. James Caldwell from Orlando, Florida, emerged as the winner of the tight slalom, and Charlie Gonzales of the Daytona Santa Cruz Team won the giant slalom. The first prize was only \$500, but we hope there will be strong support by the West Coast manufacturers next year and this annual event should rank with pro races in California and Colorado, drawing competitors from all over the **United States**

The West Coast of Florida is an energy source with skaters like George McClellan and Dave Adams (who both went to California over the summer and toured from San Diego all the way to San Francisco). George was one of the five East Coast skaters who entered the Hester Pro Bowl at the Big "O." Also from the same area are a couple of young skaters to watch for: 6 year olds Tommy Vaters and Tony Somotes. These two guys are at almost every amateur contest they can find in Florida. Though they are in the 12-and-under age group, it won't be long before they are taking home the first place awards.

The Rolling Waves Skatepark in St. Petersburg and Kit Traversa's Rainbow Wave Skatepark in Tampa both operate under the premise 'for skaters by skaters.' This area is about the busiest in the growth and promotion of the sport in Florida and, without a doubt, will be the home of future skateboard champions.

81

Gainesville is coming of age as an energy source in Florida. Bob Miller, owner of the Inland Surf Shop, has maintained a skateboard team for several years while the only skateable areas were in front of the college football stadium, several downhill sidewalk and street runs and a local drainage ditch. Gainesville locals waited more than a year for the completion of their local skatepark. With the opening of Sensation Basin, local skateboarders have taken a strong position in competition around Florida. Rodney Mullen, formerly of the Inland Team, rips freestyle and slalom in the 13-to-15 age group for his new sponsor, Walker Skateboards. Keith Hollien is another hot slalom racer, helped along by the fact that Gainesville is one of the few towns in Florida with hills.

Jimbo Skiles, manager of Sensation Basin, is proud of the fact that his park is one of the few East Coast parks that has vertical walls, smooth finish, and good transitions. Ronnie Brown, Tony Romano and Bruce Mason lead the "Hogtown" skaters in pursuing their bowl riding potentials, and they are looking forward to the next team challenge contest. The first annual Sensation Basin Pepsi Team Challenge was held in early June (see results Vol. 5. No. 3) and, with the participation of twenty-two teams, this contest will be a major compeition for Florida teams in the years to come.

The Central East Coast of Florida, which includes Melbourne, Cocoa and Indian Harbour Beaches, is the home of three of Florida's professional skateboarders. The first skater from Florida to gain any recognition was Bruce Walker; and though many thought him unworthy of the coverage, Bruce has contributed unselfishly to the development of the skateboard scene in Florida. The second skater to be recognized was Jim McCall, freestyler and aspiring bowl rider. Jim is the East Coast's most productive professional, as he not only has a board model and wheel model of his own but he also has the most extensive and consistent contest record of any East Coast pro-He is now concentrating on his vertical



Bob "Boober" Bentley, originally from New Jersey, is a semi-local at Frank Nasworthy's Cadillac Wheels Park (Lighthouse Point, Florida).

skills as a break from his past rigid freestyle training program. Mark Lakk, the third pro from the area, is strictly into vertical. Famous for his somersault aerials off the vertical addition to the Indian Harbour Park, Mark placed 20th in the Hester Big "O" contest, which was the 2nd best performance by East Coast skater (Mike Folmer placed 13th). Mark has a model out by Flite Skateboards and he heads up the Flite Team which includes Guy Hoffman, Tim Lake and the incredible Tim Scroggs. Scroggs is Florida's top amateur 15-17 freestyler, but rumor has it that with the release of his signature model freestyle board, he is turning pro. Other hot locals include Greg Meischeid, Jacky Grayson and Glenn Klaugal, all riding for Walker Skateboards. Indian Harbour Skatepark has plans for construction of a pool, and Bruce Walker is looking into the possibilities of running a pro slalom contest in the Spring of '79. This area of Florida, known as the surfing capital of the East Coast, is also very strong on skateboard energy.

The skaters from the South Florida area lay claim to being the major

energy source in Florida. This stems from having the Cadillac Wheels Skateboard Concourse (C.W.S.C.) as a proving ground. Owned by the father of the urethane skateboard wheel, Frank Nasworthy, this is the only park in the state with a tile and coping pool. Nicknamed the "Monster Hole," this pool is 13 feet deep with 3 to 4 feet of true vertical. Visiting California skate stars (Jay, Shogo, Wally, Plummer, etc.) have called it "Bad Ass."

Local Ratlander Alan Glefand leads the pack with his patented Alley Pop (a no-hands frontside aerial) and his long Levi Cords. Alan has never skated in shorts; but now that he rides for Stacy Peralta's team, Stacy claims that he had a long talk with Alan and he had agreed to try shorts as soon as his legs are tan enough to show them in public. Locals riding for the C.W.S.C. Team include Gary Smith, Paul McCartney, Marcos the Brazil Nut and Dan Murray, who won the 18-and-older age group freestyle title at the U.S. Open Contest. Another area resident is East Coast pro freestyle champ, Huck Andress. Huck practices his freestyle several hours each day, but that has not stopped him

from being an accomplished vertical ripper. Huck is a transplant from New Jersey and he is a welcome addition to the Florida skate scene. Also from New Jersey, David and Bobby (Boober) Bently frequent the "Monster Hole" when taking a break from classes at the University of Miami. Both ride for the Sims Pro Team, David specializing in slalom, bowl riding and high jumping (he is the current East Coast barrel jumping champ). Boober is known for his radical bowl riding and slalom racing.

The "Monster Hole" is also frequented by the Sims East Coast Team led by "flying" Mike Folmer. Mike turned pro this past summer and placed 13th out of 74 skaters in the Hester Big "O" Contest. Mike is probably the most talented pool rider in the Eastern United States. Teammates, Chris West, Chuck Lagana, Joe St. Angelo, Scott "Red" McCrannels and John "Toothy" Textor, have compiled the most impressive team contest record in Florida with three firsts, two seconds and a third. Chuck is the team's triple threat, as he consistently places in the major events of slalom, bowl riding and freestyle. "Red" is known as the "King of Kink," as he can shred the most kinked bowls while also blazing in slalom and banked slalom events. Chris is "Mr. Casual," his style loose and relaxed — but his moves are definitely radical. Joe is a natural freestyler and bowl rider but a bad ankle has hampered his contest appearances. "Toothy" recently won the overall trophy for his age group at the Pepsi Team Challenge in Brunswick, Georgia.

The Ratlands include the Skateboard Safari Park in West Palm Beach, the home of the Sims East Coast Team. Park manager, Dale Spencer, helps with the team and her sons, "Toothy" and Tab, along with Pat Lowe, make up the most recent additions to the crew.

To the north of the Ratlands in the Fort Pierce-Jensen Beach area, a couple of skaters have emerged and placed well in contests. Mike Arios of the Safe Surf Skatepark Team is a fine freestyler in the 13-and-under age group. Ronny "LowDog" Lowe shreds half-pipe ramps and the "Monster Hole," where he won a local contest under the sponsorship of the Jensen Beach Surf Shop. The south Florida area is still developing. A couple of parks have finally opened in Miami which, being the largest population center in the state, promises a lot of new talent in coming years.



[&]quot;Sometime Floridian" Jimmy Plumer kept his local reputation intact at the 1978 US Open, Kona.



Puerto Rico's Michael Gutierraz slid easily into the West Coast scene this summer at parks like the Runway, Carson.

EASTERNERS IN THE WEST

BY BRUCE WALKER

This summer found many of the East's finest skaters sampling the near-legendary pools and parks of Southern California. After a classic exchange of skateboard energy earlier this year between the East and the West at the 1978 U.S. Open in Jacksonville, many of the Easterners were anxious to experience the West's challenging terrain.

Puerto Rico's hot skater, Michael Gutierrez, and Floridian pro, Jim McCall, accompanied me on a tour of skate parks, including Reseda, Paramount, Lakewood, The Runway and San Diego's Oasis. In the short time we were there, we skated with most of the hot pros from Southern California, as well as with many visiting Easterners. We very much appreciated the intense level of creative vertical performance displayed by both the pros and the many hot unknown riders.

The Western parks are, in general,

designed better than Eastern facilities. Smoother finishes, better transitions, and challenging vertical are the key features of the West's best parks. A few of the talented Floridians who skated the West this year include Alan Gelfand, innovator of the vertical no-hands aerial lip slide; Mark Lake, Floridian pro from Melbourne Beach; Cadillac Concourse local Dan Murray, current U.S. Open Amateur Men's Freestyle Champion; hot freestylers Huck Andress and Tim Scroggs; Clearwater's George McClelland and Dave Adams; Pro slalom racer James Caldwell, competing in this year's Colorado racing circuit; Sims East riders Mike Folmer, Scott McCranells, Chuck Lagana, and Joe St. Angelo.

Florida's Hunter Joslin spent a great deal of time in California this year doing the microphone commentary at the Hester Pro Bowl Series as well as assisting with several other major contests throughout the summer.

Reggie Barnes, a smooth stylist from North Carolina was pretty heavily shredding in the West, as were the infamous Bently Brothers, David and Boober, from Pennsylvania. Another Pennsylvanian, Peter Drotleif, the current East Coast Pro Slalom Champion, found himself working

and skating this summer at Lakewood Center Skateboard World along with pool shredder, Ray Ritter, also from the Pennsylvania/New Jersey area. The experience of daily skating alongside the West's hottest pros was evident in their own performances at Lakewood. Meanwhile, Florida pro, George Wilson and sometimes Floridian, Jimmy Plumer, were also heavily working Lakewood's infamous half-pipe.

The boards being used by almost everyone were definitely wider than ever before. Averaging 8 to 10 inches, these decks shredded pools and half pipes better than anything I've ever seen. The function of these wide boards was readily seen in the vertical terrain for which they were intended.

Visiting California was a good skating experience. East and West always have and always will be pushing each other — always learning, even sharing. The attitude that exists between skaters from these different ends of the country is something that is stoking to see: everyone is working together toward the advancement of the sport, while, at the same time, feeling a loyalty and pride in their own home turf. It's the friendly — but stiff — competition between us that keeps skateboarding forever moving ahead.





Del Mar local



Comet off the coping. Del Mar.

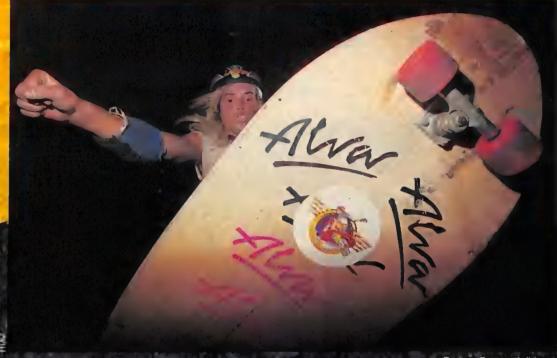


Darren Ho, Oasis









Duane Peters, full boar.



Frank Blood, Del Mar.

STATE OF



Luke Moore

18 years old, unattached



"This guy's really got a lot of flow . . ." Luke expanding local perspectives.

One of the never-ending but exciting jobs at Skate Central is searching for new talent. In response to that need, our traveling photographer Glen Friedman has been supplying us with fresh updates on East Coast hotties. Luke Moore is one of his many discoveries. "This guy's really got a lot of flow, his style is really smooth like the D.T. Boyz . . . definitely not a grunter . his frontside carves are just

insane." This is all the more suprising considering the barriers Luke has had to overcome.

"I've been skating for about four years, but I didn't even own my own board for the first year; I skated the flatlands and hills for about a year and I've been skating vertical consistently for about two years now." Luke's really dedicated to pool riding and, because of the lack of skateable pools on Long Island, he's got to pay for his pleasure. "One of the only pools around is owned by this crotchety old lady . . . before she lets us skate we've got to pick weeds and do a bunch of work for her but a little sweat is definitely worth

it." Luke also presently has an outrageous backyard ramp to work

Subscribing to the quiver theory,

Luke uses a variety of skates for different types of riding. "I ride a Z-Ply board and a Sims Lonnie Toft model, but I also make my own decks so I can shape them to the way I skate. I use Tracker Trucks and right now I'm riding Kryptonic Core Wheels. It's like anything you do: having good equipment definitely gives you the edge."

Luke's travelled both coasts skating and has ridden with the best skaters around. "I've skated a lot of parks and pools in California and some parks in Maryland and Florida, but my favorite place has to be this pool in West Hampton Beach, Long Island; it's got these two perfect bowls about twenty five feet wide and ten feet deep; they're my favorite for sure, just outrageous.'

Contest skating is pretty new to Luke but in his first major outing he placed first in freestyle and second in slalom. In his second competition, held at the Pipeline Skatepark on Long Island, he placed first in pool freestyle, second in carving and second in one-wheelers. "Right now I'm an amateur, but someday I'd like to turn pro; it's funny because I feel like I'm just starting to learn how to skate. I'm going to try my hardest to become one of the best

skaters in the country. Someday, maybe I'll be able to make bucks skating; but even if I don't, I'll still skate 'cause I enjoy doing it."

Comparing East Coast Skaters to their brothers on the West Coast, Luke says, "There's a lot of hot skaters here that nobody's ever heard of. I think East Coasters have unreal styles . . . they definitely shred heavily . . . I think if East Coasters had as many hot places to skate as the West that there would be as many hot skaters here as there are there.'

From the ranks of pro skaters, Shogo Kubo is Luke's favorite ("He's got such a hot style"). Concerning the locals around him Luke says, "John Woodstock is one of the hottest East Coasters; Sean Keating and John Tezar are also really hot.

Skating is special and means something different to everyone who does it. Luke casually sums it up by saying, "Skating means an awful lot to me. It's a way to express my feelings, just like surfing or dancing. Whenever I've got a lot on my mind I just go skating and my problems seem to disappear . . . for me it's a way to relax.'

DON SHERIDAN







Brian Abell

14 Years Old, rides for Hobie

Staring out the window at 3000 feet on our first approach to the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport, I watched the patchwork patterns of farm land, the canals and highways and I wondered, "Are there really skateboarders in Texas?" If in fact there were, what did they look like? Were they big burly guys with protective gear that somehow looked like cowboy hats and boots? Of course, that fantasy was short-lived. But I wasn't disappointed. My first encounter with young Brian Abell, at 90 lbs. and under 5', seemed to indicate that some Texans still ride hard and think "big" -at least, in terms of skate talent.

Brian, an occasional movie extra (perhaps you saw him in "Logan's Run") and avid foosball player, gave up an apparently successful career in soccer to become . . . you guessed it . . . a skateboarder.

That first meeting with Brian was on the Hobie '77 summer tour. Irving, Texas was the place, U.S.A. Skatepark was the scene. There with Mike Weed and Steve Shipp on the long road of safety demos. We weren't there to recruit, expecially in Texas, where at the time local talent wasn't up to par with California. Almost all the skaters were doing the same tricks and not yet heavy into vertical except one particular stand out — Brian.

Sweaty after two hard demos in 110° heat and almost totally unconcerned with the clammering of fans asking questions or hustling autographs, Weed and Shipp still perked up. "Look at that guy... where did he learn to skate like that?" Brian's fluid freestyle was an immediate stand-out from the then tic-tac style of the rest of the locals. He was like a breath of California air.



"Show enough!"

We thought we had made a real discovery when Brian joined the team. But, in fact, Brian was already well known in Texas, winning the State Freestyle Championship and almost every event he's ever entered. And, not only in freestyle — we didn't know the kid ripped slalom, 360's, high jumping, barrel jumping, and bowl riding, too! Although an amateur, since the '77 tour, Brian has accumulated many pro friends, all stunned at his unique style and ability!

On my most recent return to Dallas, I ran across travelin' Waldo and his driver, the notorious John Hughes, and guess who they already teamed up with? You guessed it . . . Brian. Waldo, recalling the recent Kona contest in Florida in which Brian won his division, commented, "Out of all the freestylers that I saw at Kona, number one was Martinez and number two was Abell." Part of the reason is that Brian carefully watches every pro to pick out good points. "You don't learn from watching the bad points. I'd say that Jay, Wally and Weed are my favorite bowl riders, but I really don't have a favorite freestyler, maybe Martinez or Weed."

Brian now spends most of his time with his friends at the ripable Free Flight Skatepark in Carrollton, Texas. Skating every contest and often winning every event, as yet there is no lid to Brian's ability.

Brian has been skating only a bit longer than two years, which is a little longer than most Texas skaters; but already Brian's talent is on a level with the best of the East or West. Look out California and Florida — some of those Texas boys "sho can" rip!

JEFF RUIZ





Tim Marting

20 Years Old, rides for Alot-a-Flex



"I like to concentrate on what I'm doing." Blood Bowl, Oakland, California.

really that close to the ocean." The alternative was obvious.

Studying skateboard ads in surf magazines and drawing from little else than his nature/surf orientation, Tim spent that early period on his own, casually freestyling. "I started doing slides, low backside turns like Gregg Weaver in the Cadillac Wheels ads. Actually I didn't even have those wheels — we were doing those low turns on "pop corn wheels" (that's what we called clay wheels). Way back then, that's what was fun."

Eventually, Tim and friends formed the Alot-a-Flex team and marketed an aluminum board called the "Silver Spoon." The board never caught on ("Aluminum boards don't function properly"), but the team did, emerging a strong local success in competition and promoting the sport.

The Newark Contest last May, with the North's first heavy exposure to top Southern California talent, proved a turning point for Tim. "I was always considered good up there, but I never really knew how to rate myself against other skaters. At Newark the [pros]

started showing up and I watched Bobby Valdez and Darrell Miller and thought, "These guys are really good." It just so happened that Valdez won, being one of the better skaters, and the rest weren't as exceptional as I thought they would be. A lot of them were more or less over-rated."

At Newark, of course, Tim did measure up, as he did at Orange (5th with teammate Fisher in the Doubles; 16th in the Freestyle) and Winchester. Not surprisingly, Tim's opinions on skate competition are already as strong as his performances. "Every contest has its flaws. I'm not saying the judging is bad, but there's no perfect [point] system and somebody's probably going to get screwed every time. It's too new a sport to lay down firm ground rules."

It may be that Tim is better mentally equipped than most to deal with the pitfalls of skate competition. It's hard to argue with near-perfectionism ("I like to concentrate on what I'm doing . . . think through my tricks") and a wide repertoire ("I figure I might as well do as many tricks as I can"). For now,

such dedication is compatible with attendance at a local Junior College, although Tim readily explains, "If anything big comes up skate-wise, the opportunity to tour or something, I'll go for it."

Tim is currently representing a seemingly complementary duo of interests — Saber Boards and Blade Trucks. The laminated deck measures 30½" x 8" and features what he calls a "warped wedge" tail. Says Tim, "You can feel a definite groove as if another piece [of wood] was added on." The truck, put out by teammate Jeff Sand is a new lightweight unit. Tim is currently wheeling on Park Riders while admitting, "I'm willing to try anything."

Perhaps that statement sums up Tim's overall approach toward skating as well. Tim dares to be different — despite the consequences. "Some people may put me down, but that doesn't bother me. I just let them say what they want — it goes in one ear and out the other." In his mind and on the coping, Tim is free ... No problem.

BRIAN GILLOGLY



Steve Day

18 Years Old, rides for Bad Company



Steve has long been a progressive freestylist. V-sit, Skatopia.

While skating on the Howell team during the first part of 1978, Steve Day earned the nickname, "The Technician" — and not without good reason. Steve's moves are calculated; he gives special attention to small details that most skaters don't even bother with. He is the innovator of the difficult handstand kick-flip (HKF) and is equally inventive in other areas of skating

Steve likes to set his routines to music, especially Nugent, Billy Joel and Aerosmith. Skating to the current popular version of "Big Ten Inch" went over well on the freestyle circuit this last year, where Steve was always a heavy favorite to win. His most recent competitive achievements include:

- Skatopia Skatepark: UASA Circuit
 1st Freestyle
- 2) Paramount Skatepark: UASA Circuit 1st Freestyle
- California State Championships 2nd Freestyle

- 4) Oceanside Pro Championship 4th Freestyle
- 5) Canadian Pro Championship 1st Overall

On the Howell team we stress that a skater should be well versed in many freestyle skills; not just footwork or handstands. The three most important areas are footwork, rotation and inversion, and multiple boards and aerials. Spinning over forty 360's, doing HKF's and sprinkling various aerial stunts throughout his routine, he can adapt well to any freestyle format. Steve's response to occasional prejudices against handstands is: "Skaters who criticize handstands are trying to limit the sport because of their own limitations."

Steve's favorite skaters would take in the original Howell boyz, Ed Nadalin and Ellen O'Neal, while making special note of upcoming skaters such as Paul Barrios and Gary Wise. A natural at public relations, Steve has recently been attempting a coming together of philosophies with the Sims team. His research resulted in a conclusion that he gets better with Tara Kaylor after skating sessions.

Steve enjoys designing the graphics for t-shirts (as he did for the Howell team) and his other hobbies include working on his mini-truck and getting wild and crazy in it. Steve's otherwise quiet ways are not to be confused with shyness; his sense of humor will quickly smother you, usually before you even realize what hit you.

The only thing that can be said of Steve's future is that his motivation and skating ability will continue to push him upwards. His hours of practice have evolved a unique skating style which sets him apart from his competitors. If you are ever at a freestyle meet and the name Steve Day comes over the speakers, race to your seat and hold on tight. Even so, you just might be blown away!





Ray Rodriguez

15 years old, rides for Powell Corp.



"Ray Bones." Not so much flashy as consistently radical.

"Stay young. Keep your wheels in motion. All the best things in life are free."

There's so much to say about Ray that it's hard to know where to begin. He's really got a lot of style. No matter whom you talk to, everybody likes "Ray Bones." After getting to know him, it's not hard to see why. He's got a fresh, positive attitude about life that's visible in the way he skates. He seems to draw flawless lines with an instinctively effortless quality. "My style? Well, I don't know how to describe it. I guess you'd call it a down-low surf style... definitely surf-oriented."

Ray lives in Cerritos, California, and has been skating for about two and one-half years. He got turned on to pool riding at the famous Fruit Bowl and has been a 'vertical maniac' ever since. He takes full advantage of living close to a lot of good skateparks and, lately, that's where he's been doing most of his riding. "My favorite parks are Lakewood and High Roller in Phoenix, Arizona. They're both really neat parks because everything they have is skateable." Ray's favorite elements are full pipes and pools, especially goofy-foot pools - "Keyholes to the left, yeah, that's my favorite for sure!" Ray says the only thing that's wrong with keyhole pools in skateparks is that

they don't build them with a skateable shallow end.

As an amateur, Ray has competed in a variety of contests at local skateparks. He's taken first place at Skatopia in pipe riding, first in pool riding at Paramount and first in pipe riding at the Soquel Skatepark near Santa Cruz. He's seemingly unphased about the coverage he's gotten in the magazines: "The only difference about being in the magazine is when I skate people ask my name. The people I hang around with are skaters who are just as good as — or better than — I am; they're already in the mag, so it doesn't matter."

Ray doesn't have a particular practice schedule, preferring to make it a part of every day. "I get up early every morning and go surfing (except on weekends — it's too crowded) then I skate in the afternoon or at night. Whenever I want to practice a new trick, I go to the park early to practice before anyone gets there. Ray also keeps his internal energy high by preferring a health food diet and a strict avoidance of chemicals. "The worst thing a skater or anybody can do is smoke (cigarettes); it's such a waste of energy."

School doesn't rank among Ray's favorite things, but he seems to make

the best of the time. "I'm a junior at Gar High; I don't really like school but I get pretty good grades (mostly B's). I don't even talk about skating at school."

"My favorite skaters? Well, I'd have to say Bobby Valdez, T.A. and Shogo. Bobby Valdez's inverted air is the hottest move around. It's the only thing I can't do . . . but I'm working on it! I can get all the way around, but I just can't land."

George Powell (Ray's sponsor) keeps him supplied with the latest equipment. He's currently using an ultra-light Powell 10" board, equipped with Bones wheels and Tracker or Independent trucks. "I have a good relationship with my sponsor. George is a really neat guy; everybody likes him."

Ray comes from a sports-minded family and gets a lot of support from them. "They really like it, especially my mom. Whenever I get my pictures in the magazine, she takes 'em to work to show her friends." Ray's dad doesn't seem concerned about all the time his son spends skating. "He's a really good kid, so I don't have to worry about him. He's got a lot of friends and we really like them, too, so we give him the trust he deserves."

Is skating still fun for Ray? "Yeah, that's why I do it!" And that just about says it all.

DON SHERIDAN







Vicki Vickers

18 Years Old, rides for Kryptonics



"... an obvious stand-out from the start." Vicki during pre-competition practice at Winchester.

The rapidly growing sport of skateboarding has brought so many changes that it is next to impossible to keep track of who's coming and who's going . . . with the clear exception of one fast-rising talent from Pensacola, Florida, Vicki Vickers, who has been an obvious stand-out from the start.

Her story, however, starts in Texas, where she was attending the National Surfing Championships in Port Isabel. It was there that she managed to run into that old Dogtown innovator, Nathan Pratt. "He said, 'girls can't skate'..." took it seriously, and started skating." From the start, it was obvious this girl was not one to be taken lightly.

Vicki was definitely a favorite and soon accumulated her own training crew to help her. She credits Marty Crews, Jimmy Arriga, Mike Boyd and Rick Magiffy as being the best skaters there.

It wasn't long before her skating caught the eye of Pepsi and they grabbed her up for their skateboard demo team. Shortly thereafter, she packed up and moved to Los Angeles with a full-time skating career in mind.

She brought with her an incredible contest record of 1st places for nearly every contest she had entered.

Since moving to the West Coast, she has joined the Kryptonics team and rides a Kryptonic board set up with Gull Wing Trucks and blue or green Kryptonic 65mm wheels.

It was at the Newark Hester-ISA Pro Bowl Contest that Vicki entered her first major contest in California and found herself up against some well-established female skaters. As fate would have it, though, during practice on the day of the contest, she had the misfortune of colliding with Leilani Kiyabu and was taken out of the action. Not being one to give up that easily, she was soon back on her feet and board to enter the Northern California Pro Bowl Contest at Winchester. Her 2nd place win there proved she could take a beating and still come back strong.

Vicki may be fairly new to skating, but she has already developed many friends among skating's elite. She considers Dennis Martinez, Paul Hoffman, Steve Alba, Jay Adams and Tony Alva as the best in the field. "I love skating with the guys, it makes me more aggressive and helps me a lot in competition."

Vicki's skating could hardly be catagorized as the expected female style, and she relates that her style has been likened to Jay Adams (which she considers quite a compliment). Regardless, she must have what it takes; because, at present, Vicki is going on the road with the massive Skateboard Mania Show premiering at the Los Angeles Forum. She is one of the select few chosen for the show.

Among Vicki's favorite female skaters are Jana Payne, Laurie Rarey and, especially, Ellen Oneal (who she not only considers to be one of the best, but is also a close friend).

There's no doubt that Vicki is a born natural in skating. Her determination and skill is certainly equal to that of her male counterparts in the sport; and I think most would have to agree that, though she may be quite a lady, she is definitely more than a pretty face.

JIM GOODRICH





Leilani Kiyabu

17 years old — rides for Banzai

In the female skating arena there is developing an increasing potential for the same radical skating as exhibited in the male domain. One such radical talent, Leilani Kiyabu, is virtually an overnight success — but one whose abilities were gained through much

practice and determination.

Lani, as her friends call her, was born in Germany but soon moved to Hawaii where, at the age of 11, she first learned to skate. Skateboarding back then was not too popular, let alone for a girl, and her skating was soon shelved. But a few years later, Lani moved to San Diego where it seems that fate not only placed her right in the middle of a thriving skateboard center, but also put her right next door to a neighbor with a ramp. Being an extremely outgoing person, Lani made friends quickly and her skating improved just as rapidly. "I didn't really want to skate in front of the guys right away, but they just pushed me and made me try harder." One of her best friends, Layne Oaks, proved invaluable in offering pointers as well as getting her a job at the El Cajon Skatepark.

The real turning point came for Lani when she was added to the Bonzai team. "A lot of people felt that I should turn pro, but most people didn't really know me yet." She didn't have to wait long, though, because the day after she got on Banzai, she was on the plane to Newark, California, for the Hester Pro-Bowl contest. She arrived a



virtually unknown skater and left with a 1st place trophy and a sizeable check. Lani's only comment about the contest was, "I wish there had been more girls competing.

As far as her male counterparts in the sport, she favors Greg Foster, Layne Oaks, Bobby Valdez and Pineapple. Vicki Vickers and Ellen Oneal top her list when it comes to her fellow girl riders. Lani has traveled considerably in the short time she has been skating but she still prefers the local turf and is usually found at Spring Valley and

Oasis skateparks.

"I used to surf when I lived in Hawaii and when I moved here I got into swimming and gymnastics . . . skating is the main thing now, though; pools and ramps are my favorites." Lani's equipment, a Banzai Slipstream board equipped with ACS 580's and Yoyo wheels, has proven quite effective for all around skating purposes. At present, Lani is undertaking a long-range project with the "Skateboard Mania" show. Involving 2 years on the road and a strenuous schedule of daily performances, Lani is deadly serious about her skating career and hopes to keep skating for a long time. She has been compared in style and aggressiveness with some of the best of the male skaters; but, at the progress she's enjoying now, there's no doubt that she's capable of much more . . . and intending to deliver. JIM GOODRICH

Lani, rehearsing for her part in Skateboardmania.



Steve Evans, composed in the gates.



Champion dualer, John Hutson.



Consistent high-rated contender, Evans.



Hutson – another race, another season, another win.

4 hinalitiaking backdrop = Lake Dillon and the flucking

Hawks and Evans, of winning Team Astral. offering mutual congrats on a hard-fought

by John Hutson

From a competitor's view, the Dillon races had just about everything — except organization. The hills were there, and, for the most part, the courses were challenging. The competition certainly was there, and the racing spirit had run high for the whole of the tour. Even the weather was perfect. But the Dillon races, as the others in the Colorado circuit, showed that when the going got tough and a full effort was called for, the race promoters and organizers just couldn't pull through.

The first official day of the Dillon races ended before it even started. The trials for the big downhill race, which were scheduled for Thursday, were called off to the disappointment of the pros. The reasons for the unannounced cancellation were not made clear, but it seemed that there just weren't enough course monitors and other back-up people to run the race. The racers were, in fact, already angry because the promoters had told them that the course had at least been prepared for practice runs earlier in the day.

The first few racers down the course soon learned what "prepared" meant. The course was steep, pushing speeds well over forty miles per hour for the best skaters, and the pavement was unbelievably tricky. There were potholes, patches, cracks, sections of 'cobbled" asphalt, and long strips of fresh tar that turned into a sort of syrup during the heat of the day. And there was "The Turn": A sharp right hairpin with a steep entry near the top of the hill. All this would have been acceptable if there had been haybales where they were needed and good monitors keeping cars off the course. This turn, in particular, had only four haybales set up like an archery target - you'd have to aim at it to hit if you got



Bob Piercy, always popular with the Colorado spectators, worked hard for a second in the dual slalom.

into trouble. As for cars on the course, during one such incident a driver had somehow gotten on to the course, driven halfway down the mile-long hill. turned around, and came back up to meet head-on with a group of top riders on their descent. By fluke, skill or miracle, the first three skaters managed to miss the car. The fourth rider, Charlie Ransom, went down, slid across the road, and slammed into the fender of the car, leaving a cut on his knee that took quite a few stitches to close and putting him out of the race. He was one of the top contenders for at least two of the weekend's three events. On the rest of the trial runs, the pace was understandably held back just a bit.

By Saturday, however, Harvey
Hawks, Curt Kimbel, Steve Evans and
at least two from the Seattle team were
all going through the hairpin at
incredible speeds during practice. Bob
Skoldberg would have been right up
there too; but, while taking the curve on
his first practice run, his view was
blocked by the sound truck, which
some idiot had backed right into it!
Skoldberg missed his line going into

the turn, then drifted all the way out to the edge of the pavement. The haybale barrier had been improved, but not sufficiently. Skoldberg went past it, shot off into a decomposed granite section of the shoulder, and crashed badly. The rocks he landed on were not your standard roadside gravel. In fact, they would have made the clinker rock used for railroad beds look like pebbles. Bob sustained a huge cut that went all the way to the bone in his elbow. (They actually had to leave the cut open in the hospital to drain.) Despite the furious objections of the racers, the soundtruck was left where it continued to partially block the view of the turn for the competitors.

When the downhill finally started, the racers were surprised at how few spectators were around. They found out that the race had hardly been publicized in the local news media, and the only signs for it were a few hand-lettered posters on telephone poles nearby. As the day went on, however, the competitors were thankful that there wasn't more of a crowd because there was virtually no crowd control. Dogs, children, and reeling

Rocky Mountain high-fliers were a menace on every run, especially at the bad turn, where they seemingly converged to watch for more wipeouts like Skoldberg's.

During the first of the three rounds there were only a few mishaps, and the Badland (Upland) boys and the Seattle crew were dominating the lowest times, clustering around 1:22 behind Harvey Hawk's 1:21.5. I went down near the end of the order, and although I took the bad turn a bit slower than some of the others, my tuck and the narrower wheels made a difference in the long straight sections further downhill. My time was 1:17.5, and it pretty much closed out the event. It was another case of Ferarris vs a V-8 powered Lotus.

But there were still two runs to go. They had me in that turn, but I moved out on the straights. Meanwhile, the sun got hotter and the wheels began to turn to jello, while the big tar patch near the bottom of the course turned into a horror show. By the time the third run finally started, the "Ferrari" fast turn crews from Badlands and Seattle were desperate. The rubberneckers got





Three local boys making their marks during the 1978 season, Brent Kosic (above), Jim Whalen (below), and Randy Smith (right).





what they came for. The racers went at the bad turn with do-or-dust determination and six in a row got dusted. It was not a pleasant scene. Curt Kimbel, Harvey Hawks and one of the hot Seattle boys were among the granite eaters. Although they had the two required times from the previous runs, they already knew these had been beaten, and some of them had sustained injuries that would shoot their chances for the rest of the weekend.

Keeping all that in mind, I backed off even more in the bad turn and squeeked through. I felt that I was setting a good pace for the lower part of the course, but I'll never know how good it was because my time wasn't even recorded. I won, but it was a victory in the middle of a lot of messes and unhappiness about the race and the way it was run. One of the Seattle riders (Rick Fike) took third, and Harvey Hawks got second using the times from his first two runs.

On Saturday, there was a Cross Country race in Dillon. It was a short course, 7/10 of a mile; it had gotten even less promotion than the Downhill, but there was a crowd in town, and the racers came out in force and with enthusiasm, ready for something really different.

They got what they expected. There was a long sprint from the start down a wide main street that ended at the bottom of a hill, where the track suddenly narrowed and turned ninety degrees onto a bike path. In every heat, the scene at that first corner was pure mayhem. In the pro event, I saw riders sliding full speed off the outside of the turn into the bushes, and other riders turning way too early and skidding into gravel. Harvey Hawks hit it just right; he got out front as he came out of the turn, then increased his lead as he picked up his board, sprinted up an embankment, dodged through some weeds, and took off across a condominum parking lot. No, he wasn't taking an illegal short-cut; he was right on the course! The run back to the starting line was a pure sprint, and although I gained some on Harvey, I had started too far back in the pack, and he won solidly. Third place was taken by Evans and it was an exciting, full-bore finish, but both of the seriously injured pros, Skoldberg and Ransom,

were missed; they would have been right in there for sure.

Sunday was the final day of the Colorado races, the big wrap-up, the slalom that would hopefully decide who was the fastest for this year; Bobby Piercy and I had been trading wins through the whole series, and we were itching for a head-to-head duel on a good course.

We got our chance, but the course was pretty mediocre: a classic wiggle-wonger, with the 40 cones set at only a slight stagger, each 8' down line from the previous one, and all of them in an almost perfectly straight configuration.

Of course, many of the contestants groaned. But, at least to this competitor, the problem isn't just that the wiggle-wonger is no challenge for racers; it's also a drag for spectators. The simple problem is that until the racers come abreast of him, the race is a bore to watch. Courses with cones that are staggered and put into a snaking pattern make the riders cross the spectator's range of vision so they can see who's ahead and how each rider is taking turns.

A.R.A. Organizer, Peter Camann On The 1978 Circuit

Intentions

We produced the first A.R.A. Contest in August, 1976. There was an immediate demand for a fair competitive racing format, however, even then, our goals were also long range. For one thing, we wanted to provide an equal opportunity for anyone to test their skills with the best pro-class riders. Racers from Florida, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Washington, California and Colorado compete for a cash purse and a highly respected title. In this way, the Pro Circuit is also a testing ground for equipment research and development.

Problems

This year's problems ranged from timing equipment complications to road locations and road surface conditions, amateur class schedules, and, most of all, lack of money. Our expanding operation never had a firm base to operate from. Organizing a tour for both amateur and professional competitors provides enough work for a small legion of personnel. We never had the personnel, though, so we made up for it in professional finesse, which speaks highly of A.R.A.'s people. This season, almost all our competition sites were plagued with last minute changes. For example, in Vail, the road we were to use for the D.H. and slalom was excavated for sewer work. After a lot of anxiety and quick patchwork, we put the road in good shape for the race. In Aspen, the slalom road had been oiled and gravelled a few weeks before the event was scheduled. Fortunately, a course could be set over the worn smooth section of the street . . . In other words, there were problems with every race course, with the possible exception of Breckenridge. Basically, the A.R.A. did well to complete the season, considering the myriad of obstacles, not the least of which were the logistics. It proved too large a responsibility for our staff to cover all the details and have everything turn out right. One thing is for certain, we could never do the circuit this way again.



Camann and author, Hutson.

Lessons

I learned a lot about business . . . and this business is 'life in the fast lane.' First of all, the A.R.A. program needs to be completely revised before next season. Amateurs and pros, for example, won't be competing together on the same weekends. Bill Marek, from Pueblo, Colorado, will be designing and organizing an amateur skateboard program while directing the A.R.A. freestyle competition.

Finances

By this printing, a new marketing program will have been designed and already underway, with the intention of yielding more exposure for our sponsors. Previously, the A.R.A. lacked marketing experience. which ultimately made sponsorship very unattractive. This past season was almost solely sponsored by Mac Skateboard Products of Miami. Florida (makers of Radikal Trucks) and Kryptonics, Inc. of Boulder, Also contributing were small local sponsors, mostly out of interest in the kids. We are grateful these sponsors had the foresight for assisting A.R.A. and keeping the Pro-Am competitions alive.

Future Plans

At present, I have returned to a previous profession of mine carpentry. For one thing, I have to rebuild my own house in order to be able to consider another circuit in 1979. I feel positive about the future of this sport. I've been impressed with skateboarding, the activity and the spirit, ever since I first tried it myself. I know skateboarding is here to stay - it's just too much fun. I plan to stay with the A.R.A., Inc., though I will take the Fall and Winter off from regular fulltime duties. However, preparation has begun and will go on for next season. In case you see me working at skateboard competitions this Winter, everything is all right. Changes in attitude may lead to a different latitude . . . it's hard to stay away because skateboarding's just too good for you.

Overall Opinion

This season was earmarked by much controversy, from skaters to manufacturers and sponsors. I feel it has been good for the A.R.A. because controversy raises questions. I feel I should make public my last controversial move at the final race in Dillon. At the last minute. I decided to pay no money for the purse, the reason being that there was no money in the A.R.A. to pay the pros. Purse money isn't the exclusive reason any pro comes to compete in Colorado. Primarily it was the racing they came for, plus the points that go with winning. As it is, there isn't enough money in the circuit, so each skater has to invest some of his own. And if the racers think this is unfair, then they haven't looked about at all the other professional, big league sports. Not one major franchise started from day one, totally successful and with a lot of capital. A.R.A. is no different. Today's pro skaters will have to sacrifice their investment for something they truly believe is good for them. I know the A.R.A. is a little short, but it's still the best they ever had. The A.R.A. is here to stay; our work is just beginning.



Curt Kimbel and Harvey Hawks, the other strong duo from Team Astral, took 5th and 8th, respectively, in the overall season ratings. (Evans was 2nd; Ransom, 4th.)

At Dillon the problem was compounded in a couple of ways. The trials were held in the morning, and the finals didn't start until after four in the afternoon. The crowd diffused by the static race course, got fed up waiting for the finals and generally left. It was a whole second, separate crowd that came for the afternoon's event.

But the real capper came when Peter Camann, the A.R.A.'s main promoter and organizer, stood up in front of the competitors after the trials and told us that somehow things had gone awry, and there would be absolutely no prize money for any of the races.

It was a blow. We just wanted to race. We were keyed up for the competition, had all trained and planned for this final event; and, suddenly, the tangible goal of it all, the icing on the cake, was snatched away. Peter said he was going to count on the manufacturers and sponsors to pay the racers their prize money, but that was ridiculous. Hadn't our sponsors all shelled out the money to train, equip, and transport us to the race? It was unbelievable. Most of us just refused to take in what it meant. Some of us were ready to stop

the whole thing, to quit on the spot; but we talked it over, and a kind of group spirit was kindled. There were all those people waiting for a race, after all, and it wasn't their fault. And most important to us, WE WANTED TO RACE. So we did.

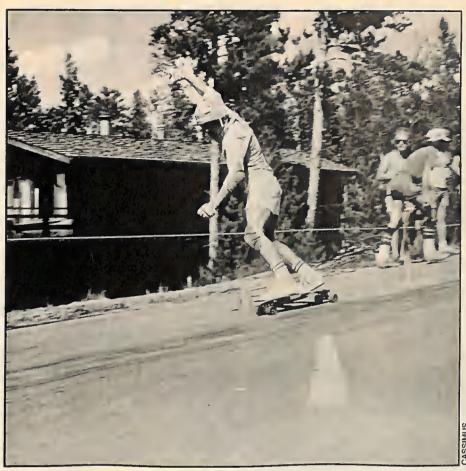
In the semi finals, Bobby Piercy went against Steve Evans, and I raced Tommy Ryan. Both races were extremely close, and, in spite of everything, the crowd was getting excited.

I felt good (I was taking little puffs of oxygen after each race to deal with the thin air), but I knew Piercy would be a strong challenge. He had been the king of the tight slaloms all over Colorado. and he has that fierce competitive drive when it comes down to the wire. In the first of our two runs it was nose-to-nose all the way, and I only won by .02 seconds, which is a matter of inches. I gained a tenth of a second on cone penalties, so I did have a bit of a lead. On the second run I was more sure of myself and I won by a big .05 seconds - still a hair's breadth, but not quite so close as the first race. On top of that, I gained .2 of a second on cones, so it

almost looked like a solid win, though it was still a very, very close thing. One cone gitch, a little flicker here or there, and I would have been a close second. But a win is a win, and I was happy with it.

In fact, at the big gala dinner that night, everybody seemed to be in a surprisingly good mood, in spite of the fact that the promoters who were eating with us, and whom we had to pay for the meal, had reneged on the original terms of the race.

This last race, and the whole series, for that matter, had so much potential. There was such a strong spirit of competition. If only the organizers could get a little more help behind them before next year's circuit! They'll need media promotion, support from major companies, possibly TV coverage and, definitely, some conscientious crowd and course control so the accidents and cancellations won't be repeated. Somehow, there's still hope.



Skating this years A.R.A.
Colorado circuit had its ups and downs for sure. The trip to the Rockies is scenic but expensive. I prefer contests where expenses can be covered by prize monies. This was not possible because of A.R.A.'s poor financial situation due to lack of sponsorship.

As happens whenever the pros get together, the competition was excellent in Colorado. The timing was sometimes not of a professional caliber lending doubt to certain race results but backup systems at least kept the action going. Perhaps the atmosphere was the high point of the whole series. Just being in the Rockies with all your pals for some summer drag racing made it all worthwhile.

-BOB SKOLDBERG

Tommy Ryan came on strong at the end of the '78 season with a 4th in the dual sialom at Dillon.

Colorado Results

Dillon, August 25, 1978

DOWNHILL

1	John Hutson
2	Harvey Hawks
3	Rick Fike
4	Curt Kimbel
5	Lance Shafer
6	Steve Evans

CROSS COUNTRY/OBSTACLE

Harvey Hawks
 John Hutson
 Steve Evans
 Tim Piumarta
 Curt Kimbel
 Carl Koomoa

DUAL SLALOM

1 John Hutson
2 Bobby Piercy
3 Steve Evans
4 Tom Ryan
5 Randy Smith
6 Curt Kimbel

1978 PRO TEAM STANDINGS	Points
Astral	266
Santa Cruz	242
Kryptonics	180
Turner Summer Ski	135
Pro Class	52
Torque	43

OVERALL STANDINGS

	Dea	Hama	Team	Total Points
Place	Pro	Home		
1	John Hutson	Santa Cruz, CA	Santa Cruz	
2	Steve Evans	Upland, CA	Astral	127
3	Bobby Piercy	San Diego, CA	Sims	104
4	Charlie Ransom	Fontana, CA	Astral	72
5	Harvey Hawks	Pomona, CA	Astral	66
6	Randy Smith	Dillon, CO	Kryptonics	65
7	Brent Kosick	Boulder, CO	Kryptonics	64
8	Curt Kimbel	Ontario, CA	Astral	62
9	Bob Skoldberg	Mission Viejo, CA		52
10	Carl Koomoa	Santa Fe, NM	Astral	39

THE OXNARD PRO:



Second-place Marc Hollander, ". . . even making eye contact with the judges."

"...an unusual contest."

On the 26th and 27th days of August, nineteen hundred and seventy eight, the First Annual Endless Wave Pool and Aggressive Pipe Riding Contest was held at the Endless Wave Skatepark in Oxnard, California. It was a professional event, conceived and executed by the promotors for the sole purpose of gathering a large group of professional skaters, spectators and members of the media together to enjoy a weekend of friendly (but highly intense) competition. It was apparent from the outset that this was to be an unusual contest.

Why did the vast majority of "regular" pro skaters decide to boycott a contest that was offering \$2,500 in cash for the first place award? A small portion of the familiar crew came; but, for the most part, the entry list consisted of first-timers and many would-be-if-they-could-be's. The reasons for

by Craig Fineman

no-shows were as varied as the personalities who held them. Most were valid from their individual points of view. But unfortunately, from where I was sitting as from many other vantage points, it came as a great shock and disappointment to find many of the top "touring pro's" absent from this event.

I think it is unfortunate, but a large percentage of today's pro skaters don't realize just how good they've got it. I know skateboarders who make anywhere from \$250 to \$2,000 per month; and I have friends on the professional surfing circuit (who have more than paid their dues) who would cut off their right ear to make any kind of consistent money for simply surfing. The pro skaters need to realize where

their true interests lie. Professionalism requires commitments. Take a guy like Wayne "Rabbit" Bartholomew, who has made a commitment to pursue professional surfing as a means of survival. You won't find guys like Rabbit boycotting a contest along the tour just because the surf is small (like Oxnard's double-bowls) or the organization or judging isn't quite to their liking. If there is a place to surf and big bucks on the line, you can bet your life that "Buggs" and friends will be there.

So much for personal opinions. Back to the business at hand — the 1st Annual Endless Wave Pro. Naturally, the competitors, as well as some miscellaneous skate-faces, started arriving several days prior to the actual weekend event. The contest practice, along with many personal vendettas, made for some dynamic sessioning and several opportune photo sessions.

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Terry Verdoia skated perhaps better than her third-place finish indicated.

Arthur Viecco.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH

On Friday night, the practice became rather hot 'n heavy, leading to the near demise of some and close encounters for others. Mr. George Orton, high flier and all-around gnarly dude, was shredding in the half-pipe and appeared to be an easy shoe-in for the first place bucks. But while Orton was trying to iron the kinks out of his bowl routine, he managed a hard fall on his tail bone. Needing a hand to exit the bowl and feeling badly bruised and stiff, George decided to pull himself out of the competiton. Disappointed, he packed his gear and left.

Slightly earlier in the evening Mr. Jimmy Plumer suffered his own concrete encounter on a frontside carve, which resulted in a gash over Jimmy's eye that took approximately six emergency stitches to close. Plumer survived and proceeded to skate very well in the actual competition.

Howard Hood arrived a few minutes prior to the end of Friday's practice rounds, muttering something under his breath about a "fish bowl." He made several passes in the bowl, then mysteriously disappeared into the darkness, never actually showing for the contest. Last, but certainly not the least, to beef on Friday night was Santa Monica's old dog, Jim Muir. Jim munched it on a backside roll-in, leaving himself sore but determined. However, Muir's streak of unfortunate luck was carried over to Saturday's preliminary rounds, when he once again ate it badly on the exact same maneuver. Jim spent Saturday afternoon confined to a semi-private hospital room.

Friday's skating was halted at 10:00 p.m. for all but the resident pros, with

the majority of the entered skaters feeling no worse for the wear. Everybody went their separate ways with one thing in common: anticipation of tomorrow's opening events.

COMPETITION FORMAT

This competition was to be run under a slightly different format and set of rules than what we've recently grown accustomed to. Although it was similar to the system used at Hester's Spring Valley Contest, the scoring process was new, untried and, thus, risky, Points (from one to ten) were awarded for each and every pass in the pool. This meant that you were being scored on every little thing you did, from your entry carve to your final kickturn. You were then also awarded a score (on a scale of one to ten) to account for style. The initial score which you received on your individual moves was then multiplied by your style points, giving



Paul Constantineau, "... cutting the mustard."

you a final score for that particular run.

Speed is obviously an asset since, the faster you go, the more tricks you can do; and, ultimately the more points you will accumulate. But style was even more important in the overall scheme, due to the aforementioned formula. The contest promotors had originally informed us that if a competitor repeated tricks, his score would be less in succession for each repeated trick. The judges' concentration on this particular aspect must have lapsed, though, as throughout the competition there was no apparent penalty for repeated maneuvers.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH

As I arrived early Saturday morning, the most apparent change in the park was a cosmetic one. The management had wrapped the fence, covering the entire southeast corner with a burlap blind which was an obviously blatant attempt to eliminate non-paying spectators.

Recognizable faces in the practice crowd included Brad Bowman, Lonnie

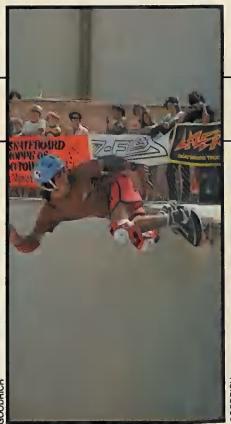
Toft, Shreddi Repas, Doug de Montmorency, David Hyde, Bob Fraas, David Andrecht and Marc Hollander (representing Sims). Jimmy Plummer, Shogo Kubo, Marty Grimes and Dennis Agnew were there for Z-Flex. Mickey Alba and Scott Dunlap rode for Kryptonics, and Jim Muir and Paul Constantineau for the newly popular Dogtown Skates. The above list, along with numerous late arrivals like the Hackett brothers, Bob Biniak and Jay Adams, terrorized thoroughly until near mid-morning.

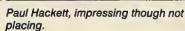
Eight-year-old Damian Hall, who qualified for this contest in Bakersfield, was the youngest competitor to date in any professional competition. Damian, along with young upstarts David Hyde, Bert LaMar, Jay Smith and Mickey Alba proved conclusively that you don't have to be over sixteen to rip.

Also providing an unexpected element of excitement were the skateboarding ladies. Many girls are seriously devoting a lot of hours to

practice in hopes of cracking the mostly unopened world of ladies professional bowl riding. We saw four prime examples competing hard at this contest. Terry Verdoia from Santa Cruz is easily the most radical female skater I have witnessed to date. She has a repertoire filled with micro edgers, frontside grinds and some truly bionic backside air. Wendy Gooding, a resident of the San Fernando Valley, had a consistent routine and skated with a style and grace still largely absent among women skaters.

The competition was stiff. As the first day drew to a close, the top five cut was made with Mike Weed (with the aid of a hang-up bar) lip sliding himself into fifth place. A perennial Dogtown favorite, Shogo Kubo, blazed his way into fourth with a routine loaded with slides and airborne's. Next was longtime Sims protégé, Marc Hollander, who showed determination and an almost flawless routine. The second place finisher was an







Ray Ritter . . . "The guy has got some tricks."

incredibly consistent local boy, Jack Waterman. In first was "Bad" Brad Bowman. Brad's flashy style ended up winning him a quick \$500 (despite this being only the first day of actual competition).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH

For a contest that was supposedly "unfair," due to the number of locals having the skatepark pretty well wired, there were many out-of-town skaters doing well. Jimmy Plumer, Shogo Kubo, Dennis Agnew and Paul Constantineau were four skaters from the Santa Monica area who were, despite the odds, cutting the mustard. David Andrecht and Bob Fraas from San Diego were hanging in there strong, and even showed us a couple of new moves. Also skating extremely well, and representing the "Badlands," were big Scott Dunlap and little Mickey Alba. Mickey's folks and his big brother, Steve, were on hand to issue support and offer experienced guidance. Last, but certainly not least,

was Mike Weed from Mission Viejo, who, despite recent contest injuries, was redeeming himself and skating more than adequately.

On the opposite end of the spectrum were heavy locals and resident pros, Jack Waterman and John "The Rubberman" Stephenson. For over a week before the contest, these two were only skating in "after hours" sessions, not wanting to show what they know. Jack, as was expected, had his routine down pat, looking like the strongest contender. John, on the other hand, was showing his usual spontaneous aggressiveness and was dubbed by observers the "Crowd Pleaser." Stephenson was awarded the contest's highest single score on a main wall frontside aerial that easily topped the surrounding fence.

When the time arrived for the initial final runs, the field had been narrowed to a select ten. Jack Waterman was first, starting off with a near-flawless run of front and backside air, alley oop's,

bert revert's, grinds, roll outs and in's and a series of slides I call "Olsons." Ray Ritter was next, skating better than I have seen him in quite some time. The guy has got some tricks. Paul Constantineau shows a comparatively limited routine - basic hot skating but not enough variety. Scott Dunlap mixed it up well, capping it off with an impressive lip slide. Dennis "Polar Bear" Agnew, who skates the Oxnard park quite a bit, showed us some unusual tricks, including hand-plant aerials and tail-block stalls on the coping. Marc Hollander of Santa Barbara was an extremely determined skater, using stylish speed lines, even making eye contact with the judges. Mike Weed used a basic routine spiced with near hook-up lip slides and fakie 360's. Shogo Kubo was perfecting a dynamite routine, but a couple of falls this round sent him to the next with great anticipation. David Andrecht from San Diego, who has been assessed by Dennis Martinez as S.D.'s hottest up





Mickey Alba was prominent among a young, yet highly competitive, contingent.

and coming skater, used new lines, tap stalls and hand-plant aerials to impress. The last finalist was Jimmy Plumer. Jimmy was using the same lines that he'd been perfecting all week, featuring full-speed passes, edgers, arches and one-footed carves, making for the most interesting (as well as exciting) routine of the day. But it was obvious that Waterman, Hollander, Ritter, Weed, Kubo and Andrecht were also in good shape for the finals, which started almost immediately thereafter.

Jack Waterman was once again asked to start off the round. His was a virtually flawless performance, setting incredible standards for the rest to follow. Up next was Ray Ritter, offering a consistent routine marred by only one break. Paul Constantineau followed, finally coming up with some clean lines though ending prematurely on a nasty hook-up. Scott Dunlap was fourth in the bowl, laying out easily his best run of the contest; not enough variety, but an excellent run for Scott. "Polar Bear"

was up next, breaking his routine on a hand-plant aerial, otherwise duplicating his previous turn. Sixth up, Marc Hollander took a gnarly hipper on a hook-up cess slide and blew his finale, a corner aerial. Marc's chances hung on his previous run. Weed followed with an exact replay of his previous run, his strength, once again, being his consistency. Shogo made up for his previous appearance in the finals with bionic frontside air, interspersed with his excellent slide variations - all in all, an inspiring routine. Young darkhorse, David Andrecht, appeared to let his nerves get the best of him, ending up with a badly broken exercise. (Look for David to come on strong in the up-coming pro contest scheduled for Oasis Skatepark in San Diego.) The final competitor was Mr. Jimmy Plumer. He seemingly disregarded popular advice and skated the same routine he used throughout the contest.

The judging panel was made up of

Southern Californians, Brad Strandlund and Gregg Ayres, and Endless Wave/Bakersfield local, Steve Watson. Scores were consistent and, in this reporter's opinion, fairly accurate. The skating was red hot, the competition, extremely close. It takes a special breed of human to be a judge; you must be virtually oblivious to outside opinions and popular criticism. This threesome managed quite well.

The massive energy of the weekend was tremendous as the final results were tabulated and released. The 1st Annual Endless Wave professional skateboard contest had reached the end of the line, opening the door for new faces, while continuing the momentum of the Hester Series and the Winchester Contest. See you at the Oasis.



Doug de Montmorency flew in characteristic form.



Oxnard resident pro Jack Waterman took 1st in the Men's Bowl Riding event.



Flashy Brad Bowman was somehow aced out of the bowl riding finals, though managed a 3rd in the half-pipe event.



Terry Verdoia . . . "Easily the most radical female skater I have witnessed to date."



"John Stephenson was showing his usual spontaneous aggressiveness.'



A few of the crew: Marc Hollander (far left), the Original Jay Boy Adams (second from left) and Shogo Kubo (right).

RESULTS

HALF-PIPE COMPETITION 1st Wagner Rodriguez **Dennis Agnew** 2nd **Brad Bowman** 3rd

MEN'S OPEN COMPETITION

Jack Waterman 1st Marc Hollander Mike Weed Shogo Kubo Ray Ritter 2nd 3rd 4th 5th

WOMEN'S OPEN COMPETITION 1st Wendy Gooding

Brenda Devine 2nd Terry Verdoia Cathy Fitzgibbon 3rd 4th



First place female, Wendy Gooding of the San Fernando Valley, skated with "style and grace."

SECOND ANNUAL



RULES:

Below are listed alphabetically the nominations for the Second Annual SKATEBOARDER Poll of the world's best skateboarders. Voting is based on outstanding performance in 1978. The reader is urged not to make selections on personality or past performance, but on the basis of who skated best in 1978. Consider contest records as well as general skating performance throughout the year. The list of nominations was compiled by the top skaters and lists provided by the Associations. We feel that '78's best skaters are among the nominees. This is not to exclude a write-in if you genuinely feel his or her performance to be better than that of those listed. NO SKATER MAY APPEAR ON YOUR BALLOT MORE THAN ONCE. In other words, do not give first and second place, or more than one place, to the same skater OR YOUR TOTAL BALLOT WILL BE VOIDED. Naturally, in a list of this sort, there will be some skaters who might be considered borderline. There will also be others not on the list who could be considered borderline. The purpose of this SKATEBOARDER Poll is to select the top skateboarders for 1978.

Select 10 Men and 5 Women. No more than one place per individual skater. Make selection on basis of best performance in 1978. Use names of skateboarders nominated or write in.

Best Male Skateboarders in 1978

Best Female Skateboarders in 1978

10.)

_

Deadline for accepting ballots: February 15, 1979. Winners will be announced in the June SKATE-BOARDER — on the newsstands May 20th.

Nominations for outstanding skateboarders in 1978:

Paul Hoffman

Howard Hood

MEN

Brian Abell Jay Adams Jim Aiken Mike Aiken Mickey Alba Steve Alba Tony Alva Kevin Anderson **Huck Andress** Waldo Autry Gregg Ayres Matt Barden Brian Beardsley Bob Biniak Rick Blackhart Frank Blood Mark Bowden Bryan Buck Randy Buck Steve Cathey Chris Chaput Paul Constantineau Steve Day Doug De Montmorency Dave Dillberg Eric Dressen Scott Dunlap Steve Evans Pat Flanagan Fred Flavell Mike Folmer Lee Gahimer Alan Gelfand Mike Goldman Charlie Gonzales Marty Grimes Guy Grundy Russ Gusnell **David Hackett** Paul Hackett Gunnar Haugo Harvey Hawks Henry Hester

Lonnie Hiramoto

Skitch Hitchcock

Darren Ho

Bela Horvath Russell Howell John Hughes John Hutson Tom Inouve Roy Jamieson Rodney Jesse Torger Johnson Curt Kimbel Vince Klyne Shogo Kubo Arthur Lake Gordy Lieneman Curt Lindgren Brad Logan Bruce Logan Bob "Chewy" Madrigal Ernie Martin Tim Marting Dennis Martinez Greg Meischeid Jimmy McCaul Conrad Miyoshi Bob Mohr Luke Moore Jim Muir Ed Nadalin Layne Oaks Steve Olson Kevin O'Regan George Orton Chris Owens Tv Page Stacy Peralta **Duane Peters** Bobby Piercy Jimmy Plummer Charlie Ransom Kevin Reed Ray Ritter Wentzle Ruml Ray "Bones" Rodriguez Tom Ryan Doug "Pineapple" Saladino Rodd Sanders Marty Schaub Doug Schneider Steve Sherman Steve Shipp Denis Shufeldt Bob Skoldberg Dale Smith Marc Smith Randy Smith Chris Strople Greg Taie Kirk Talbott John Tesoriero Lonnie Toft Jerry Valdez Robert Valdez Bruce Walker Jack Waterman **Gregg Weaver** Mike Weed Mike Williams Woody Woodstock Chris Yandall Billy Yeron

WOMEN

Robin Alaway Ellen Berryman Kathy Bomiesler Deanna Calkins Kim Cespedes Debbie Eldridge Wendy Gooding Leilani Kivabu Robin Logan **Becky Martinez** Michelle Matta Kim Milburn Ellen Oneal Jana Payne Edie Robertson Laura Thornhill Vicki Vickers Desiree Von Essen Rebecca Williams

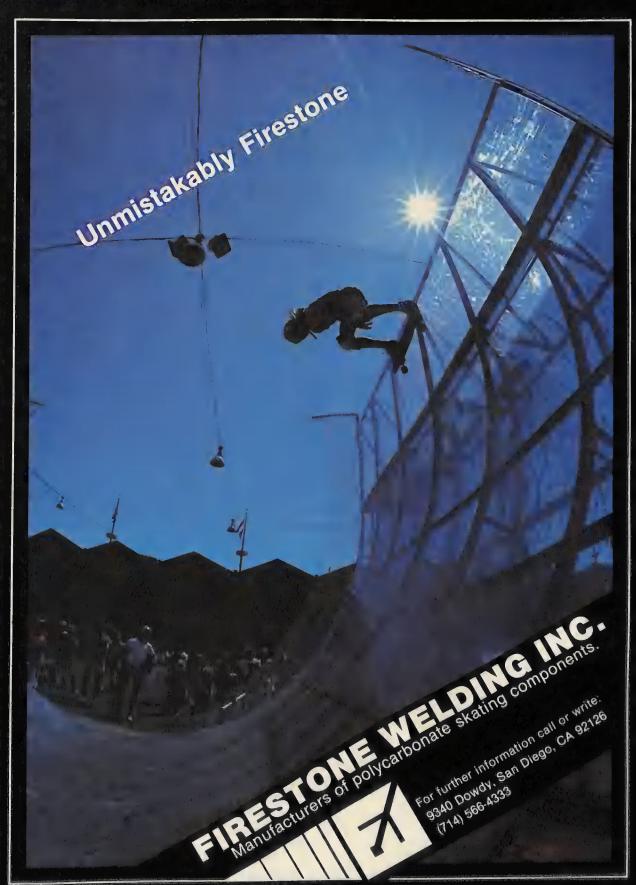


Photo: Nayland Wilkins/ramp.comps. Vinh Phop. Monterey, CA



Festival proved adept at even the most advanced freestyle maneuvers.

COMPETITION BRIEFS



Locals putting on a good show at the Surf Island Festival.

SURFISLAND FESTIVAL SKATEBOARD CONTEST

Niijima, Japan

Part of this past summer's SURF ISLAND FESTIVAL, held off the coast of Tokyo Japan on Niijima Island, was a combination skateboard contest/demonstration in conjunction with the international professional surfing championships, hang gliding and Frisbee events. The Japanese are known throughout the world as hard competitors in all international sports and their skill at gymnastics in the Olympics is unparalleled. So, it was no surprise to all of the foreign surfers there to see the local skateboard competitors put on quite a good show of agility for the few short years that skateboarding has been in Japan on a competitive level. Results and awards were not handed out in time to make a list possible for SKATEBOARDER, but the action by all of the entrants showed the level of enthusiasm on par with all of the other events of the festival.

Bernie Baker



"SKATEBOARD RODEO" Jerome, Arizona

Jerome, Arizona, (population "500 and growing") has been described as "America's liveliest ghost city," not in the least part due to this annual contest. The city's streets were reserved for the full day of competition, with the following skaters emerging victorious:

RESULTS:

Age Groups 16-18 12-15

9-11 6-8

High Jump

Barrel Jump

Downhill Speed

John Sachen Scott Henderson Patrick Coco Sean Kay

Todd Joseph

(3'91/2" jump)

Dave McMurdy

Slalom

N/A N/A

Bob Bates Scott Henderson

Freestyle

Craig Williams Todd Joseph N//A N/A

Overall Winners

16-18 Age Group — John Sachen 12-15 Age Group — Scott Henderson 9-11 Age Group — Patrick Coco 6-8 Age Group — Sean Kay



14-year-old Chris Henderson was a top competitor at Jerome.

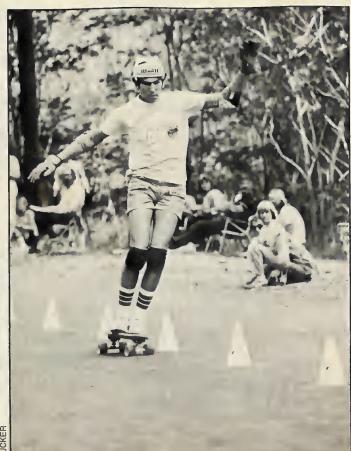


"Why don't we do it in the road!" Jerome Slalom warm-ups.

Dennis Martineau, 15, cutting the cones

Steve Ford, 15, another able competitor.





NEW ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Greenfield, Massachusetts

Over 100 competitors from 7 to 27 competed in this 2-day event staged by the New England Skateboard Association. Held in the Greenfield Arena (Judge/pro skater Russ Howell called the floor "the best arena surface I've ever skated"), the schedule included conventional arena events as well as an open class wall riding competition.

WINNERS PeeWees

Cross Country — Tony Leslie
Slalom — Tony Leslie
Freestyle — Michael Horner
Overall — Tony Leslie

Junior B Group

Cross Country — Eric Trudan 360's — Chris Elia Slalom — Erik Semb Freestyle — Chris Elia Overall — Chris Elia

Junior A Group

Cross Country — David Creque
360's — Steve O'Hara
Slalom — Layth Dawlett
Freestyle — Jeff Akeson
Overall — Jeff Akeson

Senior B Group

360's — Sean O'Callaghan
High Jump — Sean O'Callaghan
Barrel Jump — Bill Longstreet
(16 barrels)
Slalom — David Jordan
Freestyle — Sean O'Callaghan
Overall — Sean O'Callaghan

Senior A Group

360's — Bob Boardman
High Jump — Scott Trudor
Slalom — Aaron Myatt
Freestyle — Dave Carson
Overall — Scott Trudor

Open Class Wall Riding

Joe Spier

Best Overall Female

Barb Colletti

THE SUPER FAST CONTEST Buenos Aires, Argentina

Junior Statom

- 1. Patricia Green
- 2. Bengolea Maximo
- 3. Juan Pablo Reynal
- 4. Cayetano L. Astigueta
- 5. Patricio Badaraco

Downhill

- 1. Sebastian Cesar
- 2. Don Carlos Santillan
- Cayetano L Astigueta

Nose Wheelies

1. Sebastian Cesar

Vertical

- 1. Sebastian Cesar
- 2. Luis Lottero
- 3. Patricia Green



Steve Alba, Doug Saladino and David Hackett were among the top-notch competitors at the Oasis Pro. Watch for story and results next issue.





Senior Slalom

- Sebastian Cesar
- 2. Don Carlos Santillan
- 3. Luis Lottero
- 4. Nicolas Matienzo
- 5. Cecilio Selvi

Kick Flip

1. Don Carlos Santillan

UPCOMING

The \$25,000 California Pro-Am Skateboard Open is scheduled for July 13-15 at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. For further information write: California Pro-Am Skateboard Open, P.O. Box 54111, Los Angeles, CA 90054.



SkateBoarder Magazine, in cooperation with participating skateparks, wishes you a Merry Christmas with some complimentary passes to skateparks across the country. Because of the popular response from so many parks, this will become a regular SkateBoarder feature. Watch for a free pass to your favorite park in upcoming issues, or take this opportunity to visit a new one.

take this opportunity to visit ■ new one.

Most parks require that a membership be purchased and ■ release signed. Check first with the park you plan to visit if you're not sure.

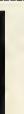
Page 138 has free passes. Page 139 has passes that are good for a free session when the equivalent session is purchased at the regular price.

Skateparks: For information, write to Advertising Director, SkateBoarder Magazine, Box 1028, Dana Pt CA 92629.



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ASSOCIATION REPORTS



I.S.A.

Our offices continue to be busy at ISA even though the competition season has slowed down. The competitions that we sanctioned and ran this year have helped immensely to clarify rules for the sport. The Hester Slalom and Bowl Competitions, Oceanside National PRO-AM Freestyle, Magic Mountain/Hang Ten/ISA Amateur were our training grounds. Our rule book is ready for publication and it is our goal to help standardize the sport.

We are fortunate to have some other publications available. We have a Skatepark Operations Manual, along with a manual on, How to Recreationally Program Your Skatepark.

We are actively seeking sponsors for both amateur and professional competitions. We have the team assembled and trained and would love to help stimulate more competitions.

Our new amateur membership program is ready now and we are offering 21 decals, one from the ISA and one from each of our manufacturer members, as well as a membership card, iron-on T-shirt logo, and a one year subscription to the National Skateboard Review.

For further information, call or write: INTERNATIONAL SKATEBOARD ASSOCIATION 711 West 17th Street, Suite E7 Costa Mesa, California 92627 (714) 646-0258

A.S.P.O.

The winners of the first skateboard league competition championships were announced Saturday, September 30, by the California-based Association of Skate Park Owners, (ASPO), at an awards reception attended by over 100 youngsters at the Pipeline Skateboard Park in Upland, California.

The league, which was the first ever organized in skateboarding and was modeled on the lines of traditional league competition (such as baseball or soccer) ran for 2½ months, from May until August, with 123 skateboarders representing 10 Southern California skateboard parks, participating.

Winners of the ASPO Park Team
Championship for 1978 were the
skaters representing the Skatercross
Park in Reseda, California. An Overall
Champion designation was awarded to
18 year-old Dave Andrecht, who also
represented the Skateboard Heaven
team. Winners of the amateur
competition received trophies and an
expense-paid trip to Magic Mountain.

The league, which was conceptualized to foster the sport of skateboarding by providing youngsters of average ability with an opportunity to compete, was open to all skaters who entered periodic try-outs held starting last May. A match was held weekly at 3 participating parks, resulting in a total of 45 matches involving both timed and judged skateboard events, such as bowl and pool riding, slalom, pipe

Bryan Buck. I.S.A. — Hester Pro Bowl, Big "O."

riding, cross-country and team relay.

In announcing the winners,
Association President, Lou Peralta,
said he was, "extremely pleased with
the level of participation in terms of
both spirit and skill, which was
displayed by the enthusiastic
youngsters. Our second league
competition will begin in January, since
we firmly believe that, as in all sports,
healthy competition is vital to the
development of the participants and
the sport itself."

Additional Association
member-parks which took part in the
league were: Aloha Skatetown, Agoura;
Boogie Bowl, Glendale; Endless Wave,
Bakersfield; Moving On, San Diego;
The Pipeline; Sidewalk Surfpark,
Fountain Valley; Skateboard Heaven,
Spring Valley; Skateboard Odyssey,
Mission Viejo and Skatopia, Buena
Park. Administration of the league
competition was handled by W. David
Snaith, Association Executive Director,
and Mara Snaith, both of the
skateboarding consulting firm of
Foxfire Associates.

For further information, contact: ASSOCIATION OF SKATE-PARK OWNERS, INC. 5301 Calatrana Drive Woodland Hills, California 91364 (213) 340-5750

EQUIPMENT RAPUP

ROAD TEST:

EDWARDS RAMP RIPPERS — This

wheel was very fast with good grip on smooth surfaces. The wheel slid evenly while doing lip slides. We did not like the back configuration of the wheels. On our test wheels we eventually ground the back flush with the bearing and put a radial edge on the backside. The result was an improved wheel for the coping and sharp edges. SUPERGATOR — This wheel proved to be excellent for rough surfaces with its bouncy urethane compound. Super smooth and grippy, it offered average speed, though it is definitely not slow. POWER PIVOT - This is a very strong, long lasting tail block which slides evenly on both smooth and rough surfaces. The Power Pivot slides very fast at first, so beware.



Always fine tuned. Gregg Ayres, High Roller.

EDWARDS BOARD — The 271/2" x 71/2" model we were provided proved a very strong and light laminate. It has little or no flex and holds up under extreme conditions. A good beginner's board. LAZER WIDE 8" TRUCKS - These trucks are very stable no matter how loose you adjust them. The trucks are about medium weight and come with very stiff rubber bushings. Great trucks for the vertical, with these you can really axle-gride a long way. The only sore point we could find was that, in contact with the coping, the metal did wear down a bit fast.

INDEPENDENT WIDE - A very quick-turning truck that can also be tightened to be a good stable truck. Comes with regular or hard rubber bushings. The metal of the trucks seems to want to catch when hitting coping. Also the king pin is recessed to avoid hitting the coping. A very

lightweight unit.

INDEPENDENT MID — A very quick-turning mid-width truck, which can also be super stable with the optional hard black rubber cushions. We found the axle nuts too thick to put many additional spacers on the axle. P. H. PIPELINE MODEL — A lightweight 30" x 95%" Pig. This board is

super strong and has well placed wheel wells. Bear foot grip is supplied with each board.

E. T. PIZZA DECK™. — This grip tape outgrips everything else we've ever tried and has excellent adhesion to board. The tape will usually outlast your skateboard. Comes in 20, 16, & 12 grit, (the latter being the coarsest).

HINTS:

WHEEL WELLS

Wheel Wells can be important as they affect the performance and safety aspects of your board. I generally recommend using wheel wells, rather than multiple riser pads or blocks, to achieve whatever amount of wheel clearance you desire. Keep in mind that a low center of gravity gives you more sensitivity and is more comfortable, leading toward max performance. That more or less goes for all facets of skating, but I can say for sure that lower is better in pools and pipes and banks.

This is as good a time as any to mention that there is one major drawback to putting in wheel wells - they do weaken the board to some extent in the common board constructions. The deeper the wells, the more chance you

take of breaking your skate. I'm sure you've all seen boards with a crack going from one well in front to another in back. In other words, your monetary situation should be considered before you make your cuts. However, I am fortunate enough to get my skates "tin roof style" (on the house), so where my wheels would rub out, the board is about as thick as 10 sheets of notebook paper. When you go this route, you not only take a chance on breaking your board, but probably void any warranty on the deck. Bear this in mind when making "factory" wells deeper or adding them to any board.

If you're still interested, I'll share some hints on how to put them in. Of course, suit your tastes and use tools that your are familiar with and have access to. If you're a caveman, use a club. If you can use a power sander or whatever in woodshop - great! Personally, I consider myself a hand craftsman and take care to do a good job. (If you're in woodshop, you probably know how to do them better than I, so you're on your own!) Of course,

there are quite a few different tools which can be used — a router, various drill attachments, etc. It is hard to do a clean job with most of these, and it's easy to screw up. That is why I take a little extra time and do my wheel wells by hand using a Sureform (rasp) with the optional rounded blade. The blades do dull and this makes it a lot slower; so, if possible, keep a fresh, sharp blade on hand. (They're cheap.) Carve them out to suit your tastes, then sand and refinish with clear paint (it dries fast) if you want.

Keep in mind the point of contact between the wheel and board is roughly where the tension bolt intersects the baseplate, although this varies a bit from truck to truck. For best positioning, I suggest putting your trucks on really loose, and rubbing your wheels at low speeds to leave a mark exactly where you need to make the wheel wells deepest. Hopefully, with good wheel wells, you'll avoid the anxiety of rub-outs while increasing overall performance. The option is yours.

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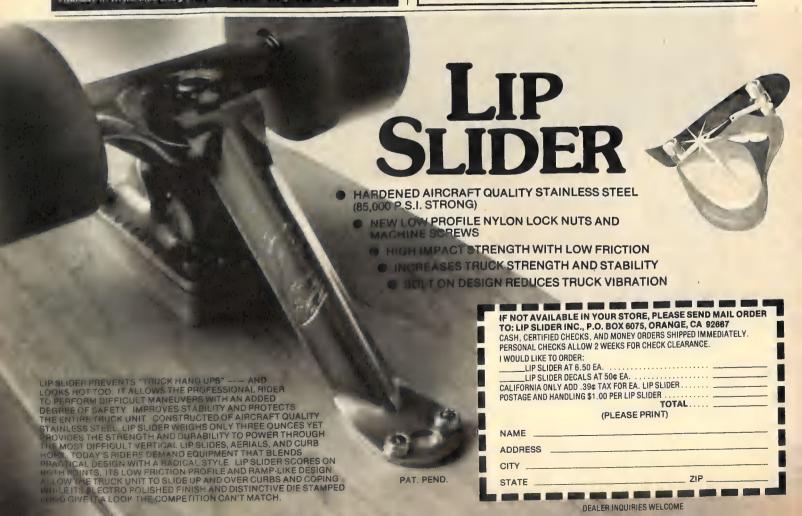


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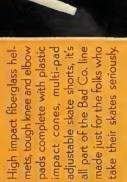
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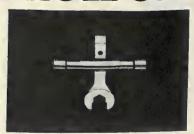
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OFF THE WALL

CASH ON THE LINE DEPT.

Notice: The new regime has inherited a number of contributor checks dating way back. They include RON MULLIGAN, JOHN VALENTINE, MARK CHESWICK, CHARLES F. NELSON and BILL BUCHANAN. The survivors should contact us at their convenience; or just send the address and we'll send you the money.

MORE MARATHON MADNESS DEPT.

Skating long hours for records and worthy causes seems to be the coming thing. Recently going the distance in a Kansas City Skate-a-ton for Muscular Dystrophy were Chris Cukor and David Clearly, who eclipsed the 24 hour mark. They also helped raise \$8,000 in pledges. Not to be outdone, Jim Davev of Phoenix went 40 hours at the High Rollers Park and also took in a considerable sum for the fight against M.D. Meanwhile, out in L.A., marathon man Louie Peralta is organizing another distance shot to benefit the American Heart Association. Off The Wall salutes these stalwarts for their efforts to benefit others.

STUFF IT DEPT.

With the coming of our Second Annual Readers' Poll, the skaters are waiting to see just how they will rate. In fact, a couple of 'em are so anxiety-ridden (we won't tell you who, but maybe you can guess) that they are planning to stuff the ballot boxes to beef-up their anticipated paltry showings. Now, we're not saying that these guys don't need help, but isn't it amazing to what lengths some small

types will go in trying to appear bigger than life? Unfortunately, their endeavors will go for no gain since all of our ballots are chemical- and color-coated and are subjected to an advanced electrophoto-mechanical spectral analysis to determine handwriting authenticity. We're telling you, the gang at parent corp. F.B.L.I. don't fool around! Chairman Dashing Dave wants to remind all potential nefarious forgers that there's always next year and we do know who you are. Maybe we should start a cheaters' poll. Now that would add some life to the old banguet!

RIGHT MAN WRONG PLACE DEPT?

That electric eclectic, the ever esoteric Lucas Bolles, returned to our American homeland after a mission abroad that was deserving of combat pay. (Well, it would be, except that Lucas does this sort of thing for fun.) After engineering the inside of the Great Pyramid at Giza into an echo chamber in honor of the Grateful Dead's Egyptian outdoor pyramid concert, Bolles claims he beat fellow Deadhead, Bill Walton, at basketball. The game, appropriately enough, was one-on-one. Lucas, after gaining our undying admiration, neglected to tell us that the NBA center was wearing a full leg cast during the incident. Next on our front-runner's agenda was the now notorious burg of Norway, where the government had days before outlawed skateboarding. Bolles unknowingly de-planed with his skate and slalomed through the airport into subsequent detention by the authorities. The powers that be explained the ramifications of their new law and were in the process of confiscating his guiver when Lucas offered to make a trade. After inquiring what our erstwhile hero was referring to, Bolles laid down the plan. He'd admit to making a wrong turn in exchange for being allowed to leave the country immediately with his equipment. (Our readers will please excuse Lucas for making this slight exaggeration, since travelling to a land where all skateboarding is illegal is surely a wrong move altogether.) After that close encounter, Bolles, craving excitement, proceeded to the New Orleans Superdome for the Ali-Spinks title fight. There he "thinks" he bumped into stellar star, Bruce Logan, who was with Angie Dickinson, Edy Williams, Johnny Cash, John Travolta and Frasier Smith. Bad Brucie, who was undercover at the time, swore Lucas to secrecy, so there was little more we could pry out of him. However, it seems certain that Bolles left the arena in the company of Sylvester Stallone, Miles Davis, Leon Spinks and his bodyguard, Mr. T. It's said that if you cross Mr. T, he'll dot both your eyes; so perhaps we'll just exercise good editorial judgment for a change and drop the whole thing. Lucas was last seen in disguise at the Skateboardmania premiere in the L.A. Forum.

ROLLER SPORTS SHORTS DEPT.

While the rest of the media hangs behind, our noble flagship is hoisting another banner on the masthead. According to PEOPLE, US, NEWSWEEK, TIME, LIFE, SEVENTEEN, etc., the newest rage ... get this gang ... is urethane-wheeled rollerskates. Oh well, better late than never. If they would bother to read the first issue of our blazing new mag, ROLLER SKATING, maybe they'd learn a thing or two. Editor M. Horowitz's new rag devastatingly penetrates to the heart of true roller mania. I mean, these other guys are talking trash about all these unknowns while ignoring legendary trend-setters like Kenny and Bob Means, Fred Blood, John Hawthorne, Duke Rennie, Pete Stewart, Joe Rice and Marty Carter. In comparison, really who are Linda Ronstadt, Cher, Farrah Fawcett, Cheryl Ladd, Cheryl Tiegs and Billy Carter, anyway? And what do they actually have to do with skating? Rollerskating seems like so much fun that maybe Ms. Mary will finally reveal whether or not these skaters truly roll eight to the bar. Hang in there for another month to find

INS AND OUTS DEPT.

Pioneering designer Tom Morey (inventor of such goodies as three-piece surfboards, paper hexagonal hats, a sprayable wax replacement and Boogies) is now, according to reliable sources, creating skates that will fit on any type of ordinary street shoe. What will old Tom think of next? (Hint: maybe a pedal car that goes 40+?)

Newest searing star in the inner city is Brian "Tweety Bird" Woods, brother of Lamont. Riding after dark to watch his sparks with the likes of his bro, Marty Grimes, Tweety's been known to do roll-outs up over the ramp along the fence and off the roof. To compound matters, the Woods brothers' Dad knows Darth Vader personally and the hot tip is that the man is heavily behind disco skating.

Aerial ace and perennial stuntman, Nathan Pratt, moves closer to the career in show business that he alleges to have no interest in. His latest outing was a guest shot surfing in a three-piece suit on Steve Martin's t.v. special.

Of additional interest was the show's cameraman, Gary Weiss (of "Saturday Night Live" fame), who in Santa Monica circles is known to have been a steel-wheeled rider back in the '60's.

T.A., laying low near Malibu Point, came out of seclusion for a go-out in some 5' hollows at DT's Bay Dump. Also on hand were Pratt, Peralta, Muir, Humpston, Constantineau and Biniak. Rumors are flying concerning their pri-

vate sessioneering at the Park Marina complex.

Tracker Trucks' Dawn Dominy is in a put-em-up sticker duel with Elaine Singer of Donel in Texas. While Ms. Singer is covering an entire auto, Ms. Dominy is at work deep in her secret design lab trying to go her one better. Eat your heart out, Ruston, these ladies are serious contenders.

Photog Will Atler's been blowing brains lately with his unique brand of skato-journalism while lurking legend Stan E. Dull's been looking for a new hook-up. Any takers?

Comic skating send-ups in recent issues of MAD and CRACKED mags are the funniest things to come out since Ruben Sanos' album recorded live in the Logan's garage. In a more serious vein was the September BAM magazine's interview with skating Starship lead guitarist, Craig Chaquico. The piece (taped while riding in Craig's Targa at 100+) reveals the man's innermost compulsions and also yields several epic one-liners.

Ayres, Peralta, Schneider and Blackhart were out of control on the road once more. Blackhart at the wheel full-bore across the desert left a specific party's father's Matador with a totalled suspension system, bent rims, sans hubcaps and a thrashed gas tank. As if all this weren't enough, Rick then proceeded to demonstrate 360 slides with two fingers on the wheel. But if you think that's radical, how about Doug telling his dad that he "only ran over a pothole." The senior Schneider reads this column, so we'd better shut up. Heard it was an accident sir.

On his way home from some remote pipes, the car of Cassimus (King James version) was attacked with buckets of ice cubes thrown from an overpass by four unidentified hoodlums in a beat-up Matador. The bombardment was so severe that our photo editor sought refuge in some bushes. The sabotage was reportedly retribution for the nitro-alcohol fuel-injected ramblings of one of San Pedro's finest. Just how many times can a sane person sit through tales of Pizzaman, Hairlip, Dead Eye, Tomato Man, Buttface and Quick?! King James' passengers at the time, Steve Alba and Scott Dunlap, were unavailable for further comment.

Skateboardmania's "please don't refer to it as a Death Loop" has been downgraded by the addition of handholds and guard rails. As a result, we regretfully retract our offer to depict the vertical 360 in this column. After viewing some of those form-fitting space costumes, perhaps it would be more advisable for the skaters to hold their hands over their faces to hide their identities!

Ellen Oneal, Steve Cathey, D. David Morin and J. Goodrich were observed walking on the back lot of Paramount Studios. Was it just lunch in the commissary or a high-level movie business meeting?

From the heavy grinders dept: Tracker's player/rep Lance Smith — whose job is to inspect worn-out trucks of the famous and near-famous — reports that the top three grinders of the month are 1) Alba, 2)Ayres, and 3) John Winchester.

Our own boy, W.B. Beast, after remaining in contention at the Stone Steps Classic where 49 kegs of beer disappeared, managed to arrive intact for the opening of his one-man show in the San Diego Camera Exchange. Speaking of stone steps, the UFO aliens ranked as the heaviest consumers at the kegathon.

Cash McAnlis has gone on credit to claim responsibility in the Hobie Team's softball thrashing of an unnamed skateboarding magazine team from Dana Point. With our longball hitter, Mohammed Bolster, occupied elsewhere, Bob Skoldberg's homers (one a slam) drove the stake through the hearts of these journalistic jocks. The incriminating photos of Big Foot at the victory party are now in our files and should serve to dampen his enthusiasm in the re-match. In other words, Bobby, if you don't hit, we won't show them to your mother.

A house-warming in La Jolla was the order of the day for one Squire Mac Intyre. Mr. Mac, who is not related in any way to the dreaded FibreFats, sent out engraved invites that specifically requested an abstinence from food fighting at the affair. Everyone was so well behaved that we're not even sure why we're covering such a boring nonevent. Perhaps it's to warn our readers not to be taken in by these temporary good manners and have some of these maniacs over to their domiciles as guests. If they do, they'd better be ready to duck when the food starts flying.

Russ Howell, back from his sixth trip in the last six months, took in the National Lampoon's "Animal House" with several members of his freestyle army. Spinning Wonder Russ was so overcome by the film's spirit of fun that he ordered his entourage out to his customized van where they proceeded to make several hundred water balloons, waited for the movie house to empty and then nailed the crowd from the van's gunports. A couple of the drenched weren't too stoked but regained their humor when Howell threatened them with a realistic-looking gun . . . which he promptly ate. Apparently, the gun was made of chocolate.

The Kryptic fake first name for the month is "Dukenfeld." After D. David Morin's last three bogus attempts, does he seriously expect us to believe this one?

Keeping hush-hush about his possibly organizing an up-coming \$10,000



Funny Foto

contest is the Santa Barbara Godfather, T. Sims. Tom's also been busy lately with a new surf shop and he's keeping in shape by getting loose on the concrete slopes with teammates, David Hyde, Brad Bowman and Kirk Putnam, in the Fish Bowl.

MS. STEAK'S DEPT.

Disgusted Canadians have deluged Skate Control Central with such barbed criticisms as, "I am appalled at how little you know about Canada," simply because p. 118 of our September issue denoted Calgary as being in B.C. (when, in fact, it is located in Alberta). Come on, skaters, we know that . . . it's just another example of our not-sosubtle reporter S. Steak's perverse sense of humor! Furthermore, BRYAN LILJE, member of the Progressive Team, informs us that Steak struck the October issue a deadly blow by listing Sims East as second and Progressive as third in the team standings for the Southern Team Challenge. Actually, Progressive upset Sims for the Number Two spot. Steak also sabotaged the names of JIM BURTON, CAREW CAS-WELL, REGGIE BARNES and the outraged Bryan. Good sleuth work, Steakwatchers!

FUNNY FOTO DEPT.

Our Frosted Flakes in the October issue were none other than Chris Chaput and the ferocious FibreFats. First to I.D. and win the fabulous prize load was Katie Schmitz of Scranton, PA. Runners up mention but no prizes go to CHRIS RACEK of Denver, CO; JOE SABAT of Long Island, NY; and ANDY STILLMAN of Collinsville, VA.

The 300 entries we've received on last issue's fish-faced fool have all been incorrect. So here's a hint: he looked good at Signal Hill, his dad's a S.F./ Oakland area media magnate and he's known to excel with a camera, too. — Come on, funsters, this one is too easy. For today's menu, try a dragging Eskimo Roll. First to correctly I.D. wins a SKATEBOARDER day pack and a subscription to this magazine. Send all entries to this column on picture post-

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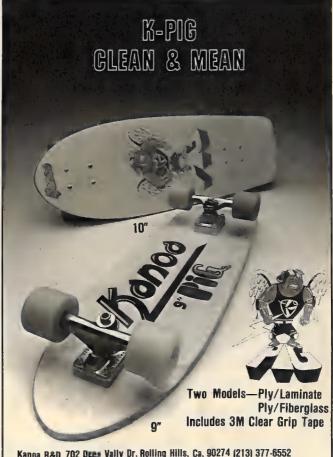
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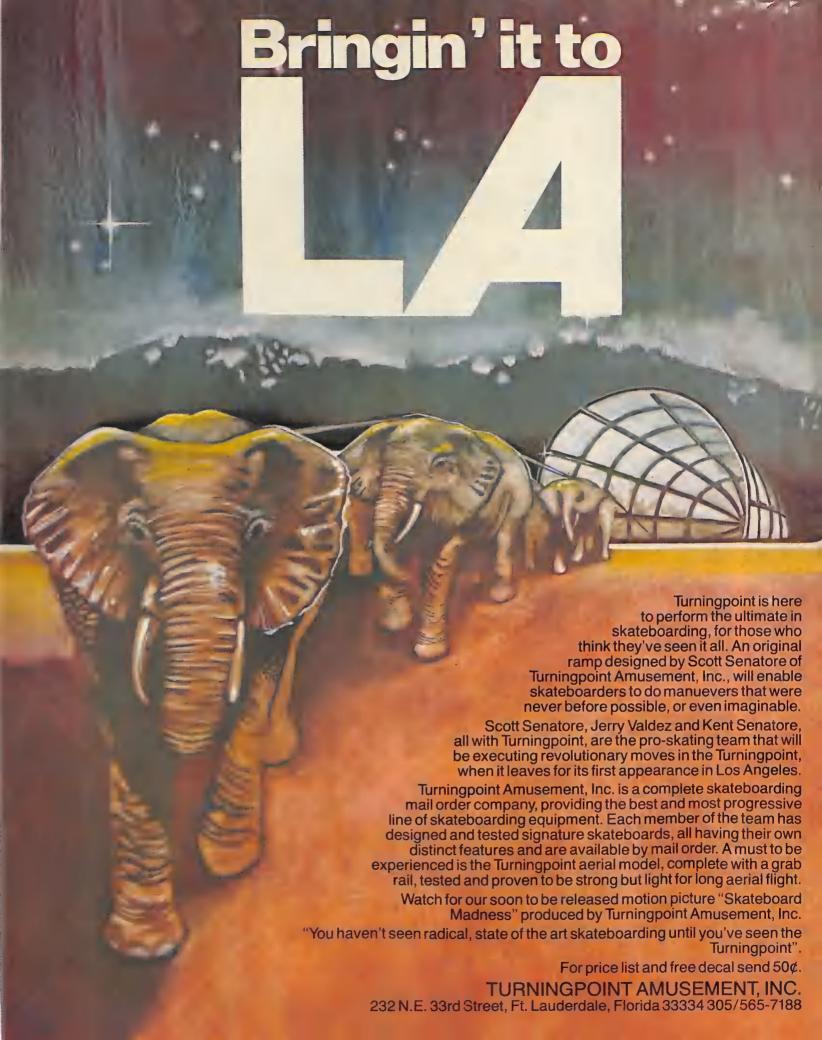
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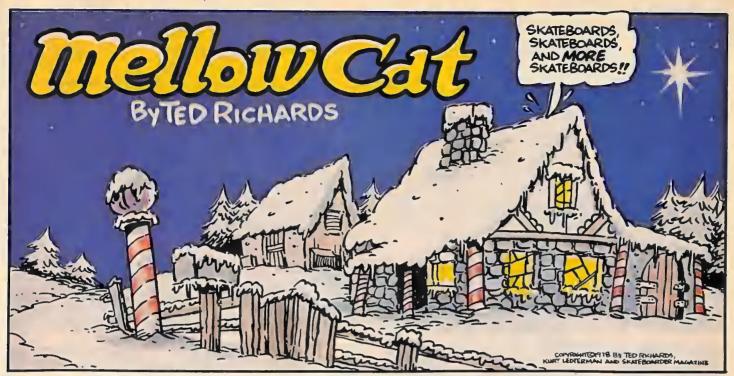
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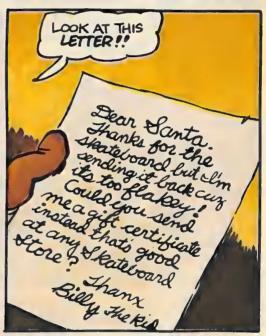


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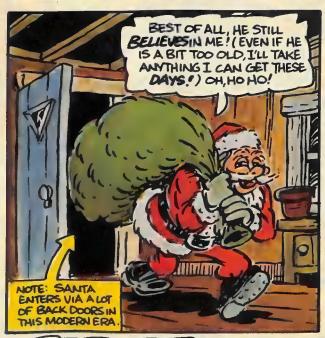








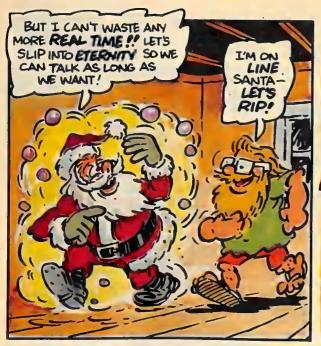












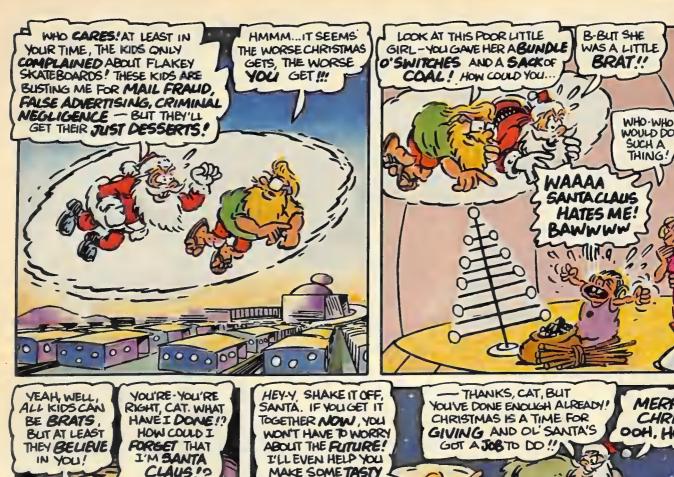












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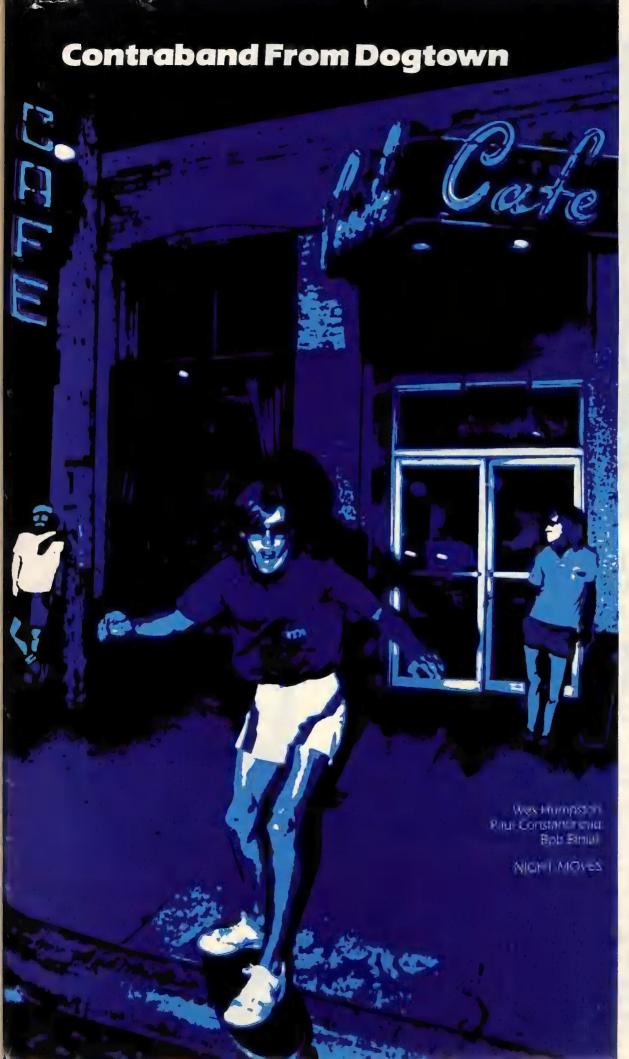
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Pro Rider Steve Picciolo at Lakewood Skate Park. Photo Jim Cassimus.







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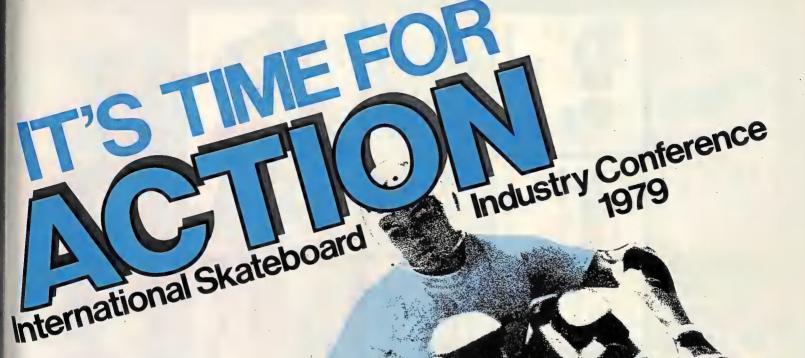
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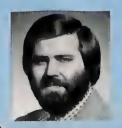
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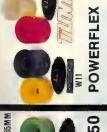
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THE PROTECTIVE COMPONENTS: High performance is one thing, durability is another. Conventional decks rely on one material for both performance and durability. The Kryptonics Deck features two components designed specifically to protect and prolong performance. The first is our unique urethane

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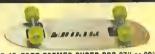
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POWER FLEX #5 W.14 KRIPTONICS 60 (RED, GR, BL.)



W-7 G&S YO-YO

YELLOW

W-15
KRIPTONICS
(RED,
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W-16
KRIPTONICS
70 (RED,
GR, BL.)

W-11_{G&S} G&S
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(YELLOW OR
ORANGE) ORANGE)

W-4 ROAD RIDER

W-8 SIMS

COMP. II (GR. OR RED)



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FR-1C

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W-20
FREE FORMER
S) W-19 ROLLER SKATER
SIMS (ORANGE)
ROLLER SNAKE
(GREEN)

W-17 W-18
SIMS (ASSORTED COLORS)
(GREEN) R



INDEPENDENT 88MM

FB-9C LOGAN DURO-LITE 27" or 29", ACS 580, KRIPTONICS (65, GREEN)



FB-7C SIMS KICKTAIL 25" nr 27", ACS 500, SIMS COMPS (RED)

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PSP-9 @ 5 95 (6)

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B-4B @ 21.95

B-4A 8-5B

B-5C

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T-11 @ 8.95 ea

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T-21 @ 10.45 ea

T-22 @ 10 45 ea

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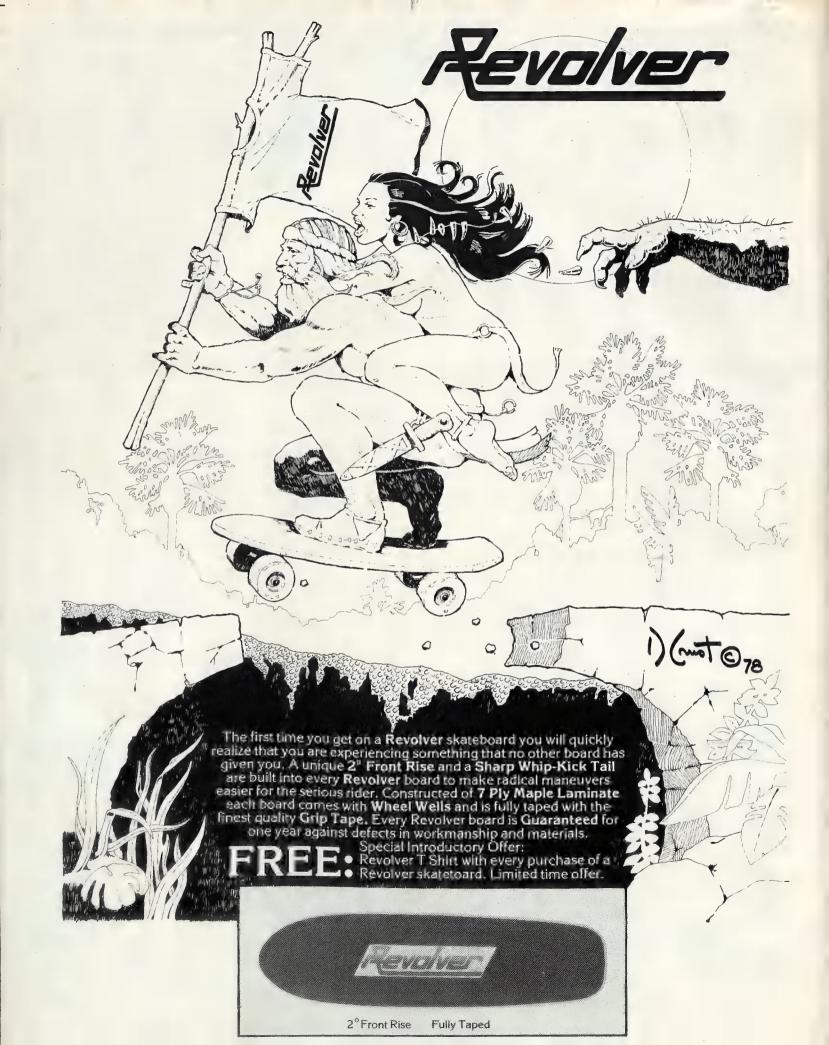
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New "Off-The-Wall" Roller Skates

ACS Trucks and Van's "High Top" boot bonded into a skate with something special*** a full foot fiberglass base plate for complete support... yet it's lighter than narrow base plates. Get the lightweight comfort of a Van's "High Top," combined with the support and strength of a full foot base plate. Your boot won't wrinkle or roll...it's Van's best, featuring full hide suede leather and superduck canvas, completely padded ankle and collar areas, reinforced nylon stitching, all 100% vulcanized.

Ride smooth on durable, dependable ACS trucks. Both 430 and 580 models have a single nut for easy adjustment—even while wearing the skates.

Don't roll without 'em—ACS "Off-The-Wall" Roller Skates—for comfort—speed—stability. They're really something special!

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED.

"Off-The-Wall" roller skates come in full and half sizes with these variations:

Skater Pro wheels with semi-precision bearings—\$69.50 pair

Super Pro wheels with precision sealed bearings—\$84.50 pair

Shoe and trucks only (no wheels) — \$49.50 pair

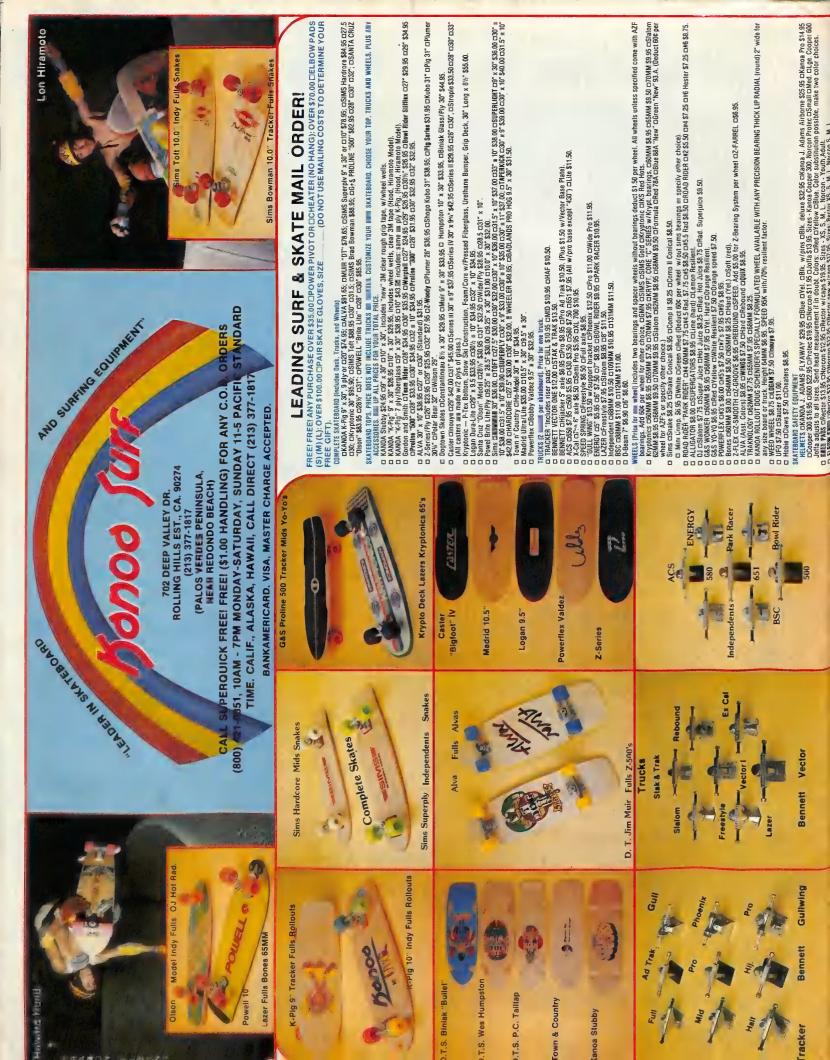
(Price includes ACS 430 trucks. For ACS 580 trucks, add \$8.75 per pair.)

Order direct with the coupon. Or get them at any Van's shoe store.

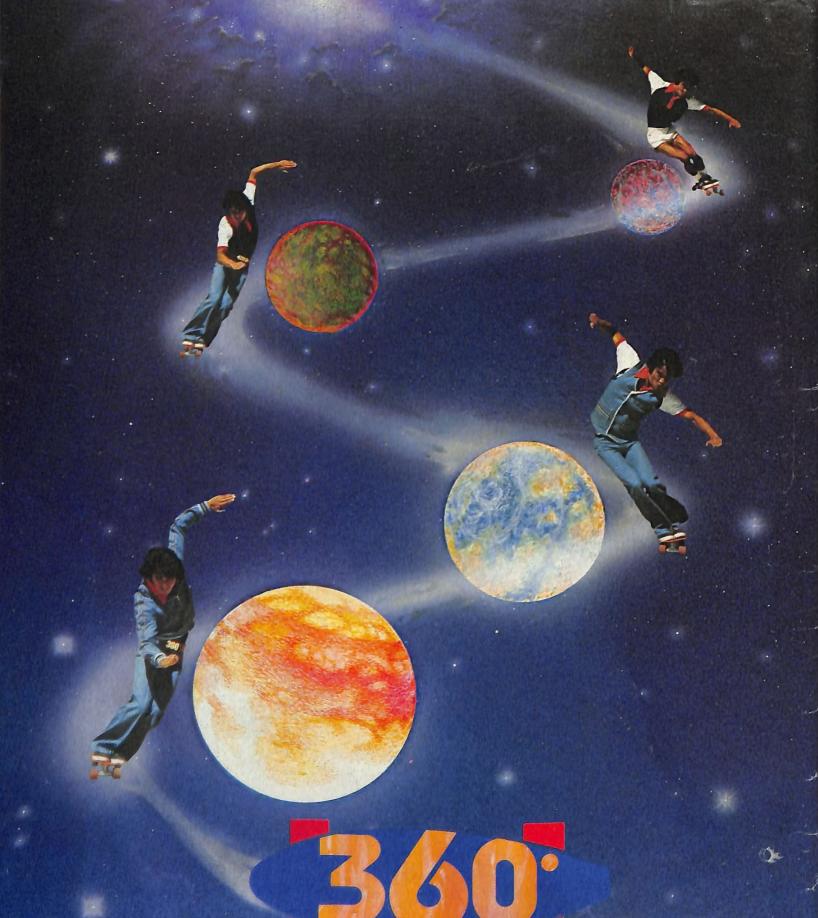


IE COUDON IS	MISSING SEND	ORDER TO	ACS ROLLER	SKATES.	BOX 1395,	COVINA,	CA 91722
IF COUPON 13	MISSING SEND						

ACS ROLLER SKATES P O Box 1395, Covina, CA 91722 Please send mepair(s) of ACS "Off-The-Wall" Roller Skates	Add \$3.00 shipping charge per pair (\$5.00 foreign). California residents add 6% sales tax. Send check or money order. All foreign orders must be paid in U.S. \$. Thank you.
Styles: □Skater Pro \$69.50 □Super Pro	\$84.50 Enclosed is: \$
☐Shoe and trucks \$49.50 ☐ 580 trucks	s \$8.75 Shipping: \$
Size: Men's 7-11 Women'	S 5½-9 6% Call tax. \$
Width: ☐ Narrow ☐ Medium ☐ Wide	Total.
Name	
Street	Please send above order & charge it to my Master Charge or Bankamericard (check one)
City	
StateZip	Exp. Date
State	Signature







360°

SWEAR-BLAZE

= 1714) 566-4500





LAMINATED PROFESSIONAL SKATEBOARDS

HIGH FLY'N LAMINATES

Designed by the CALIFORNIA FREE FORMER SUPERSTARS



BOWL BUSTER.

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BRYAN BEARDSLEY "BOWL BUSTER"

available 32"x10", 34"x10"

TY PAGE "TY-STIK"

available 25"x7¼", 27"x7¾", 30"x8¼" 30"x10", 32"x9½"

PROFESSIONAL SKATEBOARD

SUPER PRO

available 25"x7¼", 27"x7¾" 29"x8¼", 31"x 10"

SUPER PRO II

available 27"x7%"

NEW DURABOND™ CENTER CORE

For added Strength and Rigidity

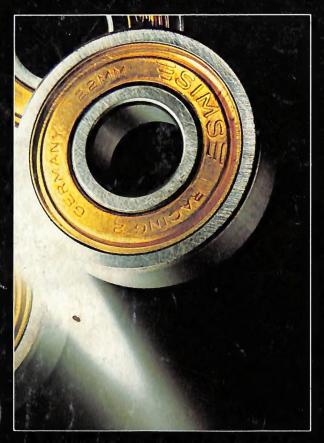
MULTI-PLY LAMINATES
 Light but Durable

FULL SCOTCH TRED

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"LEADING THE WORLD OF SKATEBOARDING"

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THE NEW SIMS GOLD GERMAN RACING BEARING

ESIMS

SNAKE CONICAL 66.5mm X 60.75mm

- CONICAL BACK FOR SMOOTH COPING RELEASE
 NEW SUPER ROCK REBOUND SPEED FORMULA
 257 OUTER RADIUS FOR EDGER CONTROL
 RECESSED BEARINGS FOR EVEN WEAR
 60.75mm WIDTH FOR WIDE BOARDS

COMP 7/ CONICAL

64.5mm X 55.0mm

• 2mm SMALLER THAN THE SNAKE CONICAL FOR LOWER CENTER OF GRAVITY



